PATRICIA ANN TRUMAN MCCLELLAND

1935-2022

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:
a life in Nature, with geysers, glaciers, and eagles

BA Elementary Education, Ohio State University, 1956
MS Wildlife Biology, University of Montana, 1992

Patricia Ann Truman McClelland

24 March 1935 - 15 July 2022

Assembled by: B. R. McClelland, Edited by: M. T. McClelland
2024

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Part 1: Parents, Birth, Childhood, Trip to Glacier National Park (GNP)(1938), Summers (1939-42) in Yellowstone National Park (YNP)(Pat's Father a Ranger-Naturalist), Black Bear attack on a friend (1942), in Granville (Ohio), Education at Denison University and the Ohio State University, Marriage, Summer in YNP (1956), Living in Carlsbad Caverns National Park (Fall 1956-spring 1957), trip to Big Bend (1957)

Parents, Birth, and Childhood

Pat's father, Harry Verne Truman, married Margaret Theresa Galligan, on 14 June 1934. Patricia Ann Truman was born on 24 March 1935, at the Beloit Municipal Hospital, Beloit, WI.

Harry Truman was born on 12 March 1901, in Chagrin Falls, OH. He had no siblings. Harry earned three degrees: A.B. Ohio Wesleyan, in 1923; A.M. Western Reserve University, in 1932; PhD University of Wisconsin, in 1933. He taught Botany and Microbiology at Beloit College (WI), 1934-37; Northern Montana College (Havre), 1937-42; Army Aviation Training Program at La Crosse and at Oshkosh State Teachers College (WI), 1942-44; Albion College (MI), 1944-45; Southwestern College (Winfield, KS), 1945-46; Fort Hays State College (Hays, KS), 1946-48; and Denison University (Granville, OH), 1948-68. Harry became Emeritus Professor in 1968. He died on 18 November 1978, after a long illness caused by a stroke and cancer; he was 77 yrs old.

Pat's Mother, Margaret Galligan, was born on 20 December 1906, in Ashland, WI. Margaret had two sisters: Marian, her twin, and Rose, who became a Catholic nun (Sister Mary Patrick). Peg had three brothers: Robert, Joseph, and Thomas.

Peg earned a B.A. at Southwestern College, Winfield, KS, in 1947 and an M.A. at the University of Wyoming, in 1956. She was a prolific artist and taught in elementary schools for 33 years. In 1974, she received the "Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America" award. Peg died on 1 May 1992; she was 85 yrs old.

Pat's father was a Baptist and Peg was a Catholic, presenting a dilemma for their parenting. They agreed to raise Pat as a Catholic. She was baptized at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, in Beloit, on 20 April 1935. Her Godmother was her aunt, Marian Galligan. Pat had her First Communion in May 1942. She never seems to have been a "hard core" Catholic. Pat left Catholicism in the late 1960s.

Harry, Peg, and Pat lived in Beloit, WI, until 1937, when they moved to Havre, MT. Pat received her pre-college education in five towns: Havre, MT, 1940-42; Oshkosh, WI, 1942-44 (summers 1943 & 1944 at Camp Hiwela, Wild Rose, WI); Albion, MI, 1944-45; Winfield, KS, 1945-46; Hays, KS, 1946-48; Granville, OH, 1948-1952. Pat completed high school in Granville (a year early, 1952). She then enrolled in Denison University, also in Granville. In 1953, she transferred to the Ohio State University, from which she graduated in June 1956, with a B.S. in Elementary Education.

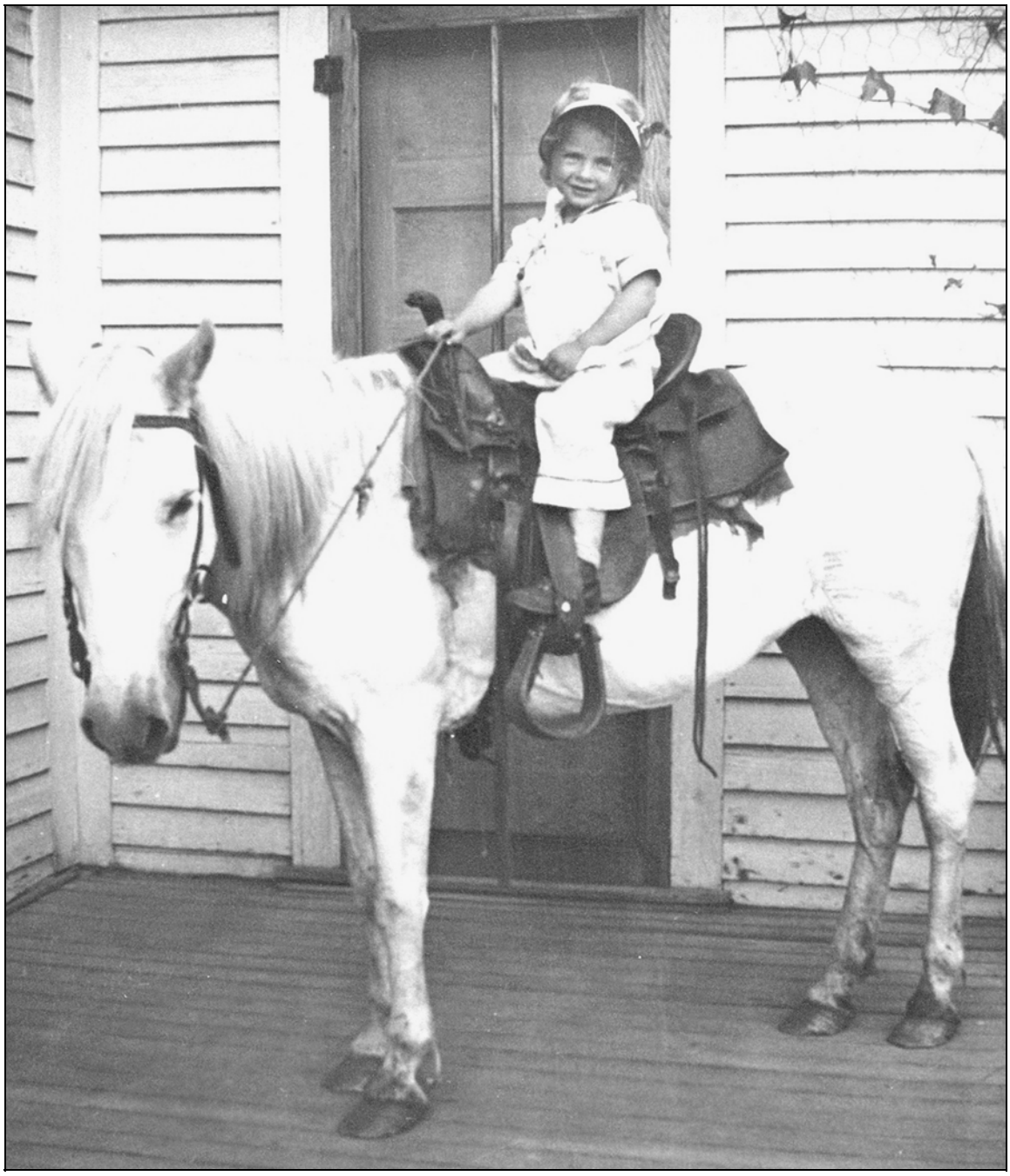
Margaret Galligan and Harry Truman,
wedding day, 14 June 1934,
Madison, Wisconsin

Harry and Peg with baby Pat, 1935

Pat's aunt Marian Galligan,
born on 20 December 1906,
died 22 October 1999.

Four generations of Trumans, L-R: Peg Galligan Truman (Pat's Mother), Emma Mace Truman (Pat's Grandmother), Verne Truman (Pat's Grandfather), Amelia Houghton Truman (Pat's Great-Grandmother), and Harry V. Truman, (Pat's Father). The photo is from 1937, so Pat is two yrs old.

Pat's parents were very kind to their own parents. In their final years, Pat's Grandmothers lived with Harry, Peg, and Pat:
Maternal Grandmother Theresa Merkt Galligan, during 1949-1951;
Paternal Grandmother Emma Mace Truman, during 1951-1957.



Pat on Babe, at the Phalon Ranch, near Havre, Montana, circa 1938.

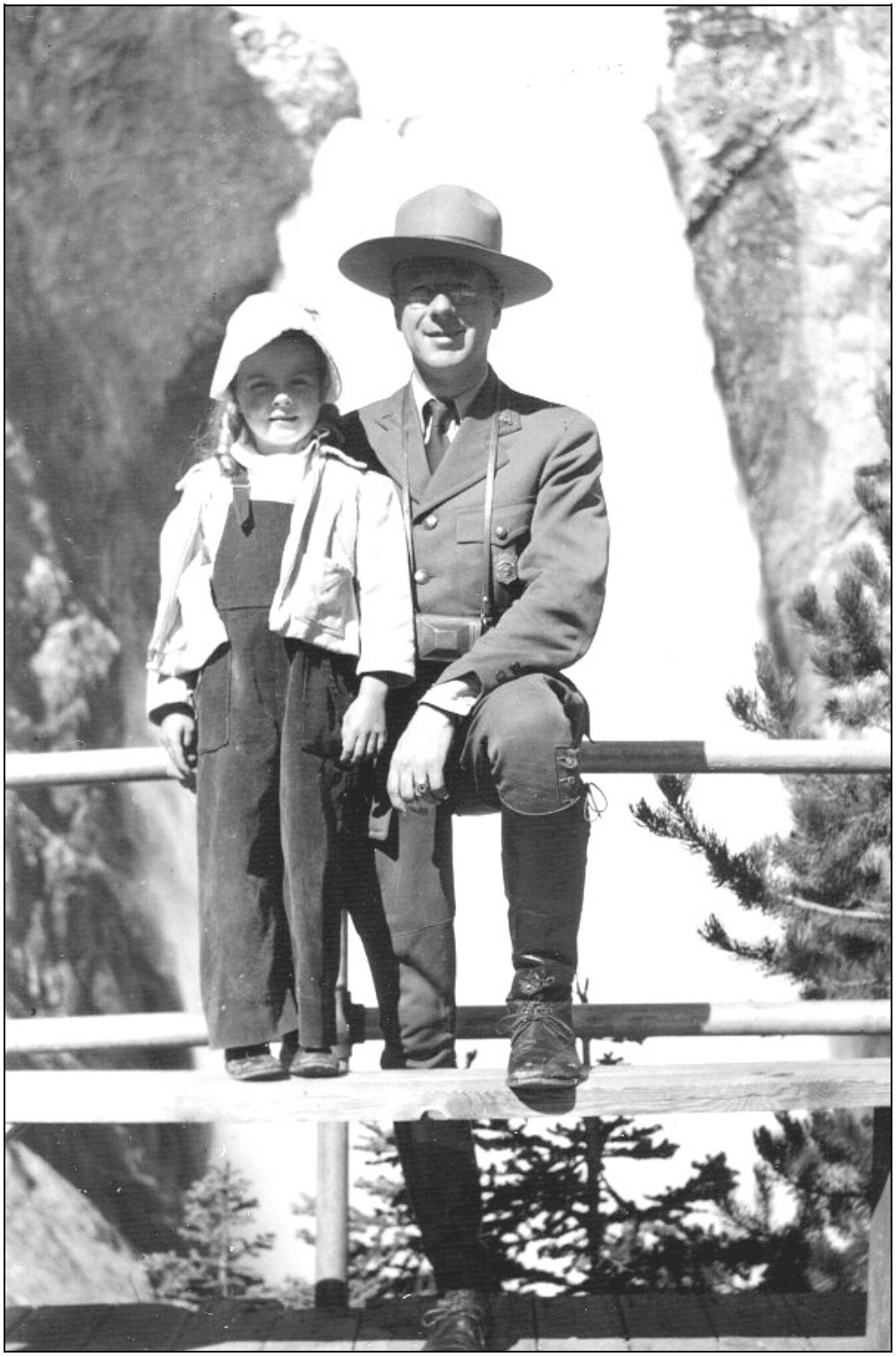
The Truman family visited Glacier National Park in 1938. There were “begging” black bears along the roads in that Park, just as there were in Yellowstone National Park (YNP). Harry allowed this one to get a bit too close. The Truman family spent the next four summers in YNP.

Start of a bear jam in YNP, summer 1939.

Ranger-Naturalist Harry Truman

Ranger-Naturalist Harry V. Truman, summers in Yellowstone National Park

YEAR	EOD	COB	STATION
1939	15 June	10 September	Old Faithful
1940	16 June	15 September	Lake
1941	10 June	12 September	Canyon; Harry gave the final bear talk at the Trout Creek Garbage Dump on 11 September (verified in District Ranger Joe Way's September monthly report)
1942	June	September	Old Faithful, on 24 June, Kent Watson was injured by black bear, he was saved by Margaret Truman; Harry assigned to East Entrance after OF closed
1954	27 July	9 September	Old Faithful



Pat and Harry, Lower Yellowstone Falls, 1941

Pat (second from left) at Old Faithful, 1939, playing along a fork of Myriad Creek, near the Naturalist Quadraplex. The wooden pipe obviously was old and in disrepair. We couldn't find anyone who knew where the pipe carried water. Other children: Tiffy Lystrup is to Pat's right; Elizabeth Lystrup is the second girl from Pat's left.

Pat wading near the Giant Geyser cone, Upper Geyser Basin, 1939.

Trout Creek Dump (near Canyon), with grizzlies feeding on garbage. The fenced and walled-off area in the background is the enclosure where the public sat while a Ranger-Naturalist (often Harry Truman in 1941) gave an educational talk. Pat and her mother frequently would have been among the spectators in that summer.

In summer 1942, Pat (seven yrs old) was playing with Kent Watson (three yrs old) near their quarters at Old Faithful. A large black bear approached and grabbed Kent by the head. Pat's mother (Peg Truman) heard the kids screaming. She rushed from the cabin and literally took Kent from the bear and rushed Kent into the cabin. The bear had torn part of Kent's scalp off his head. Kent was rushed to the hospital at Mammoth. He recovered fully after many months and ultimately joined the National Park Service.

L: Kent Watson, with head bandaged, after being injured by a black bear and treated at the Mammoth Hospital.

R: Pat Truman; the children are on the steps of the Old Faithful Quadraplex.

SPECIAL INCIDENT REPORT

Station Old Faithful Date June 24, 1942

Subject: Bear injury to Kent Watson

Kent Watson, aged three, was playing with young friends on the creek just west of the Old Faithful naturalist cabins when a medium to large sized bear started toward him. Mrs. Bieberdorf stated that her children ran away. The bear struck Kent down, took a bite on the back of his head, and started dragging him from the little island where he was playing to the opposite bank where his foot caught and the bear lost his hold. Kent apparently was not afraid of bears and did not attempt to run away.

Mrs. Truman and Mrs. Beal heard the cries and ran to rescue the child in time to see the bear making a second attempt to regain his victim. Mrs. Truman rushed in and drove the bear away from the boy by screaming. With help from the other ladies she carried the injured boy to his home.

Mrs. Eggler and Mrs. Bieberdorf stated that the bear circled around, following them toward the cabins where the crowd had gathered. No other attack was made, however.

An emergency call was received at the Old Faithful Ranger Station at 9:05 a.m. District Ranger Bauman immediately went for the nurse, Dorothy Burger, and took her directly to the scene of the accident. After first aid treatment she advised the child's father, Ranger Verde Watson, to take the child to the hospital, which he did without delay.

The following people were interviewed regarding the case: Mrs. Harry Truman, Mrs. Willis Eggler, Mrs. Sam Beal, and Mrs. Frederick Bieberdorf.

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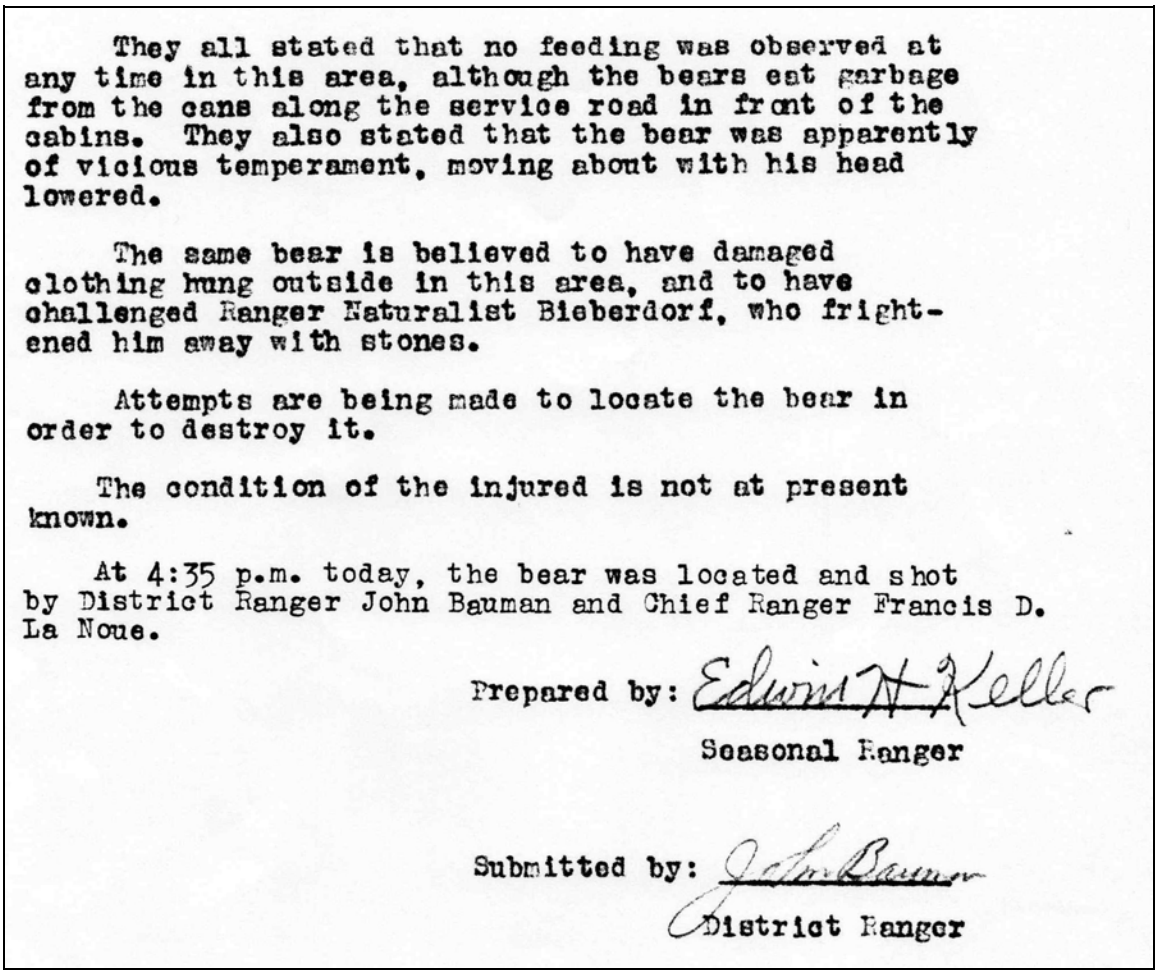


They all stated that no feeding was observed at any time in this area, although the bears eat garbage from the cans along the service road in front of the cabins. They also stated that the bear was apparently of vicious temperament, moving about with his head lowered.

The same bear is believed to have damaged clothing hung outside in this area, and to have challenged Ranger Naturalist Bieberdorf, who frightened him away with stones.

Attempts are being made to locate the bear in order to destroy it.

The condition of the injured is not at present known.

At 4:35 p.m. today, the bear was located and shot by District Ranger John Bauman and Chief Ranger Francis D. La Noue.

Prepared by: Edwin H. Keller
Seasonal Ranger

Submitted by: John Bauman
District Ranger

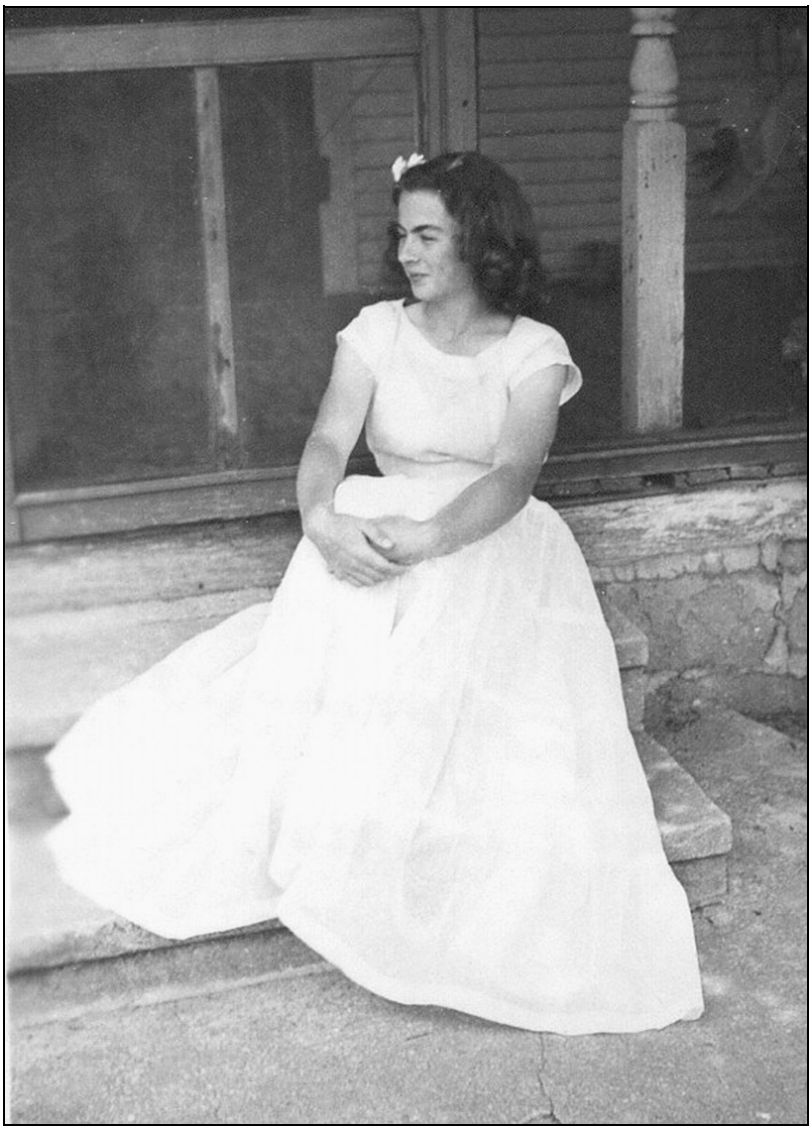
Ranger John Bauman's Report on the black bear's injury to Kent Watson, 24 June 1942.

Pat inside the “Antler House,” near McCartney Cave, across the street from the Mammoth Hot Springs Museum, summer 1942. The “House” was removed from the site circa 1960.

Pat returning home (Oshkosh) after 1943 summer at Camp Hiwela, Wild Rose, Wisconsin. The caption on the back of this photo was written by Pat's Mother: "Pat just as she arrived home from camp last summer. She was so busy telling us what happened that she couldn't even keep her mouth closed long enough to have her picture taken!" Pat attended the same summer camp in summer 1944. The Camp was sponsored by the "Bluebirds." Girls in the Bluebird group were younger members of the Camp Fire Girls organization.

Pat and a Golden Eagle nestling, photo from Audubon Magazine Jan-Feb 1946: "What a Golden Eagle Eats," by her father, Harry Vern Truman.

In Hays Kansas, Pat volunteered for a veterinarian. She did a variety of work as the veterinarian's assistant. Caring for animals was a lesson never forgotten. In 1949, the Trumans spent the summer in Taos, New Mexico. Her Mother said that Pat spent a lot of time chasing lizards.



Pat (13 yrs old) ready for a music concert at Hays, Kansas, 1947

Pat's horse (Stormy) and her dog (Boy), in Granville, Ohio, circa 1952

Pat was exceptionally talented in many ways; one obvious talent was in music. She was fond of the violin. She received a quality violin in 1952. The story goes as follows: While living in Granville, Ohio, Sam Gelfer, a family friend, musician, and teacher, gave Pat's parents a special violin. Harry and Peg then gave it to Pat as a high school graduation present (1952) and for her start a Denison University, in Granville. The violin was No. 21, Antonio Pedrinelli, F in Crespano (Italy), 1847.

Prior to Sam's obtaining it, the violin had been discovered (by an unidentified person) in an attic in Cleveland. The violin was in damaged condition. It was repaired by a professional (last name Anderson), in Cleveland. This violin, No. 21, had a "sister" (from the same group of four violins) being played by the Second Violinist, in the Cleveland Orchestra. Pat played violin No. 21, in the Granville Orchestra, and on numerous occasions thereafter. When we were living in Missoula, she found that the sound post had slipped and she had it repaired by Avril Anderson, St. Ignatius, Montana. Pat also loved to sing; in several years she sang with the University of Montana public chorus.

Pat worked at the Denison University Library (summer 1952 and 1953) and subsequently at the Ohio State University Library (part-time). She said that she enjoyed the experiences and benefitted intellectually.

In the summer of 1954, Pat (19 yrs old) worked as a counselor at Camp Oneka (a camp for girls, at Tafton, Pike County, Pennsylvania, 110 miles from Philadelphia). Oneka

was located on the eastern ridge of the Pocono Mountains and included Fairview Lake.

Beverly and Pat

Eve Farrell

Beverly Butz and Eve Miller were Pat's best friends in Granville, Ohio, and thereafter. Beverly married Bruce McCurdy. Eve married Dan Farrell, who joined the Park Service in 1958.

Beverly wrote the following, on 9 May 2021: "I think about Pat a lot. We shared so much growing up, was in her home all the time when we were in our teens. She taught me so much about the natural world, about wildlife, and about venturing forth to discover the unknown, and I think that's where I gained my early interest and enthusiasm for biology and natural science. She was my best pal too in loving riding and having a horse to take care of. And so gifted in writing - poetry, etc. We will always be connected from our childhood."

Pat worked at the Old Faithful Upper Hamilton Store in summer 1955. There, she met Riley McClelland, an NPS Fire Control Aid at Old Faithful.

Pat
and Riley did several hikes in the 1955 YNP summer. This photo, at Skeleton Pool, is along the route to Mound Geyser, in the River Group hot spring area. Pat was adventurous, sometimes to a fault. The old log on which she was inching her way, rested on a thin shelf of geyserite. The Pool's near boiling water extended under the shelf. If the shelf had broken, or if she had lost her balance and fallen off the log, she would have been literally cooked, in seconds.

Pat and Riley at Lake Solitude, in the Grand Tetons, hiking with Pat's parents, August 1955.

Pat and Riley both were fascinated by geysers and spent many hours waiting for eruptions. Great Fountain (above) was one of their favorites.

At the end of Pat's summer employment at the Old Faithful Upper Hamilton Store, she returned to the Ohio State University to complete her BA degree in Elementary Education. Riley returned to Ft. Collins, Colorado to complete a BS in Forest Recreation, Riley visited Pat at her parent's home, in Granville, Ohio.

Pat and her dog, Boy, in Ohio, fall 1956

During the Christmas/New Year school break, Pat traveled by train to visit Riley at his parent's home, in Denver, Colorado. They decided that they had enough in common to make marriage attractive. They made their plans for a Catholic marriage to be performed on 12 June 1956, in Denver. Father Damon McCaddon would officiate.

Patricia Ann Truman, graduation photo, the Ohio State University, June 1956

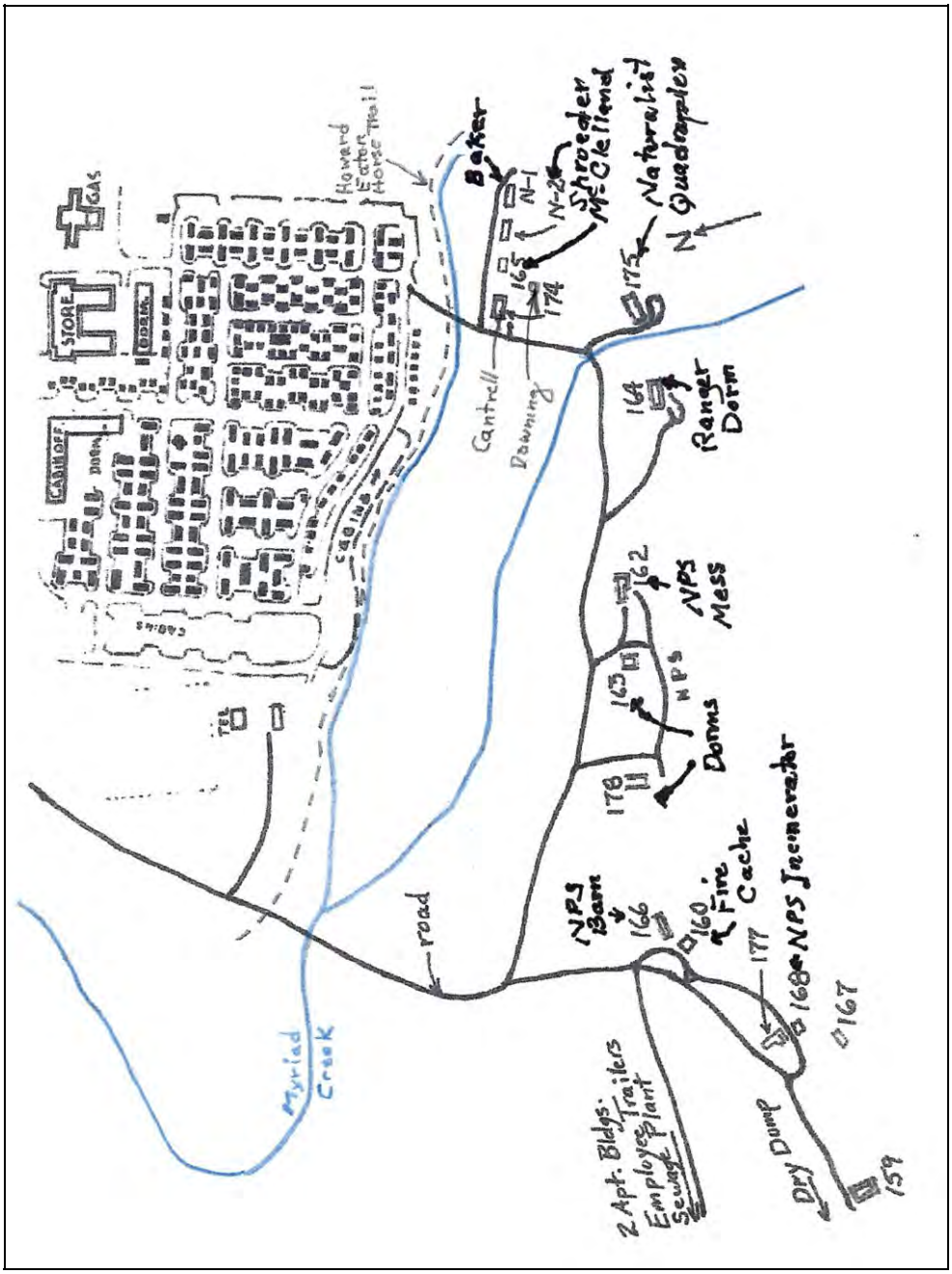
Patricia Ann Truman McClelland and Bernard Riley McClelland, leaving Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church after their marriage mass, 12 June 1956. Then, on to a reception for 100 guests at the Park Hotel, in Denver. Riley's aunt, Dorothye Arnold, and husband Leslie Arnold, sponsored (paid for) the reception. Pat seemed to tolerate the "festivities" better than I did.

After the wedding, we spent one night at Fall River Lodge in Rocky Mountain National Park, then, headed to our favorite place in the World, Yellowstone National Park. On 18 June, we moved into a 10 feet by 12 feet frame cabin referred to as the "Dog House," at Old Faithful. Pat worked in the Upper Hamilton Store. I served as a Ranger-Naturalist, for the National Park Service.

The Old Faithful Dog House, where we lived 18 June to 26 August 1956.

Living conditions were primitive in our cabin. Rent was $4 bi-weekly. A single light cord with a bulb and an outlet hung from the center of the ceiling. There was a small wood stove for heat. A table and two chairs completed the furnishings. Bed springs and mattress were supported by four large rounds of firewood. There was a central water tap outside and an outhouse, shared with three other cabins (Bill, Lorraine, Jane, and Vaughan Baker; Dick, Marge, and three children; and George Downing (single).

The bottom of one of the cabin windows was at three feet above the outside ground. On many occasions a black bear making routine patrols through the neighborhood stopped to look in - even to press the nose against the pane. Unidentified noises at night often made me wonder if we were about to have an uninvited entry through the window.

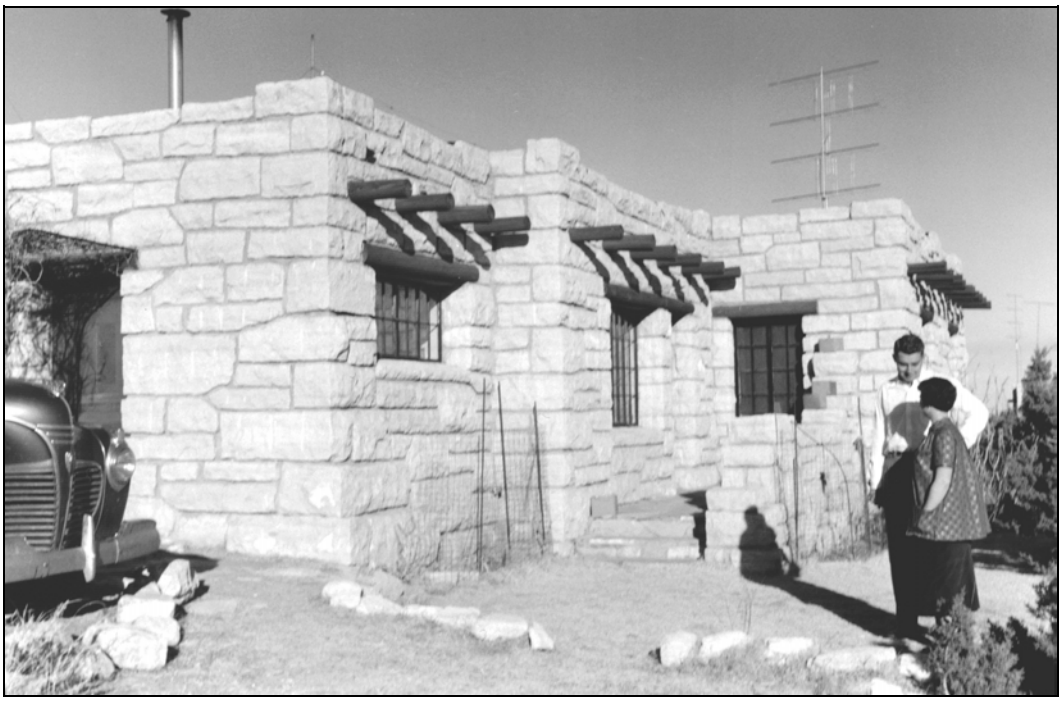


Old Faithful area in the vicinity of our 1956 cabin (The Dog House)

When Simonians departed to resume teaching in California, we moved into their apartment unit (one story, one bedroom), on 26 August. Our neighbors were the Ogburns, G.H. (an NPS plumber) and Beulah. They both were very kind and helpful friends. On 27 September, our summer jobs were finished. Our search for winter work resulted in a Tour Leader position in Carlsbad Caverns National Park. On 8 October, we moved into an apartment in Carlsbad, New Mexico. On 23 December, an NPS house in Park Headquarters became available and we moved out of town to the Park - a great improvement.

We developed good friends in Park Headquarters: Tom (Chief Ranger) and Betty Ela, Dixon and Anne Freeland, Dick Russell (son of Carl Russell, Chief of the NPS Naturalist Division), and Bill and Barbara Massey.

Pat and Riley, hiking with the Freelands, Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Fall 1956.



Our house in Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Spring 1957.

View SW from near our home in Carlsbad Caverns National Park, March 1957. The large building nearing completion is the elevator house/visitor center. The elevator accessed the “Big Room,” in the cave. The Big Room included a lunch room with food eon sale.

Pat in Big Bend National Park, on a March 1957 trip from Carlsbad. River in the distance is the Rio Grand. In a postcard to her parents, Pat wrote: “The park passes all expectations - the rocks are gorgeous - the early plants are in bloom - have seen many new birds.”

Part 2: Move to Yellowstone National Park (Spring 1957), Summer Home at Old Faithful, Living in Yosemite National Park (late 1957), Four Snowed-in winters at Old Faithful (1957-1960), Living at Yellowstone Lake (1961-1962), Living in Lamar Valley (1962-1963), Living at Mammoth Hot Springs (1963-1965), Transfer from Yellowstone (1965)

PAT and RILEY BACK TO YELLOWSTONE

The job at Carlsbad soon led to a transfer to a permanent position in Yellowstone. Pat was expecting our first child, due in mid-May.

We moved into the Mammoth Hot Springs apartment (Apt. Q) on 7 April 1957.

We were in the corner upstairs apartment, at the top of the largest bushy tree in the photo.

We had no furniture, so Pat responded to a note in the Yellowstone Weekly News. Joe and Aleda Joffe, longtime YNP employees were retiring and were advertising old items of furniture for sale.

We had great neighbors: Nat Lacy and Bert McLaren (they soon would be heading to Shoshone Lake Patrol Cabin as Seasonal Rangers; Ellen Bratlien (Secretary), and Don Guiton, whose transfer to Badlands a few weeks later, saved a place for us in the downsized reorganization of the ranger division). Being the most recent ranger to join the division, I would be first to go.

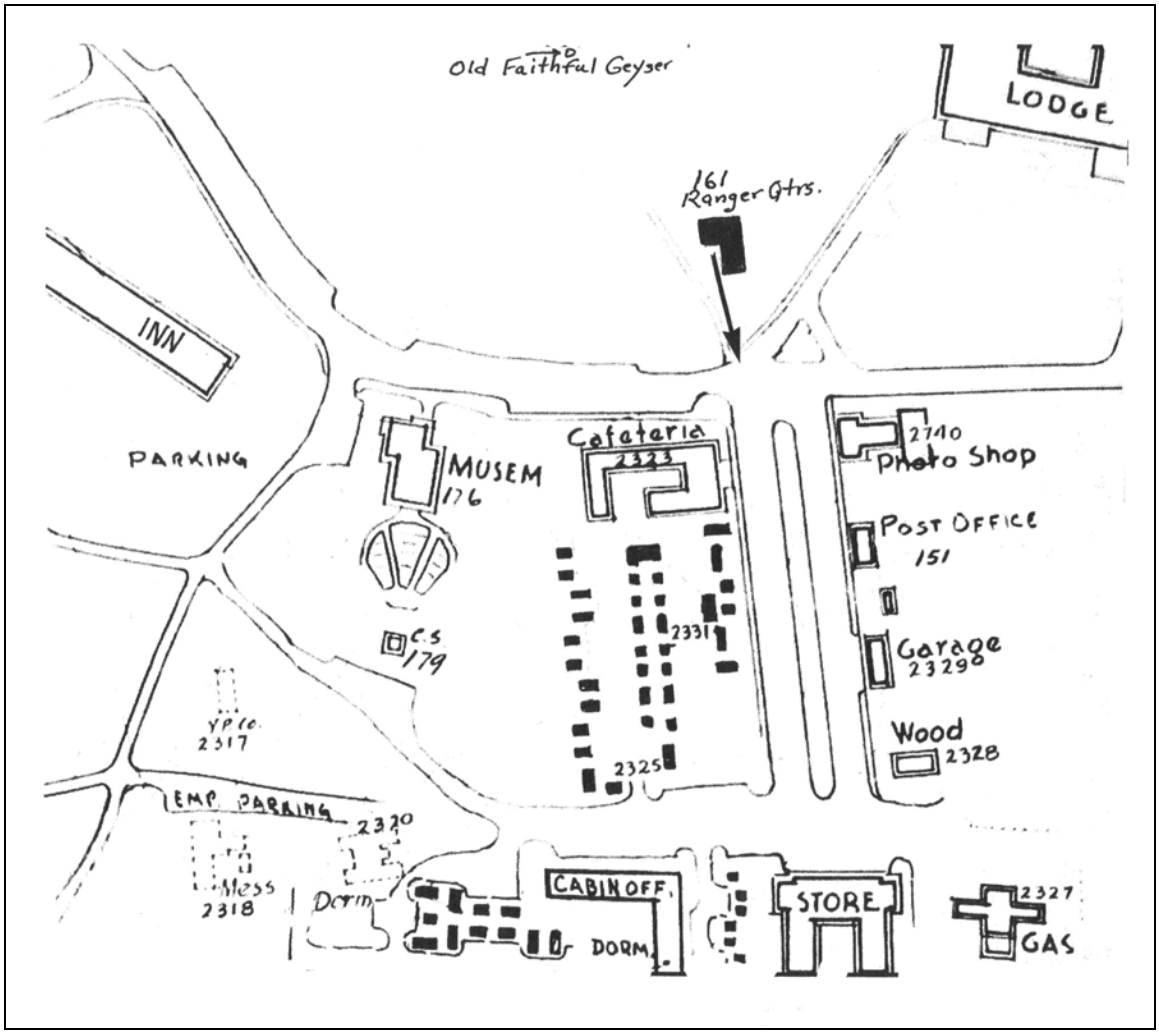
On 15 May, Pat went into labor. We headed for the Livingston Hospital, 56 miles away. We arrived in plenty of time and Mary Teresa was born the following day (16 May) at 5:03 A.M.. She was delivered by Dr. Clemens. I was allowed to be present in the delivery room.

Pat with Tee, back home to our Mammoth apartment

Pat and Tee on baptism day, 30 June, 1957 (Mammoth Terraces in the background).

In Yellowstone beginning in 1957, we made 11 moves: Mammoth Hot Springs Headquarters Apartment Q, OF Quarters 161 B, South Entrance duplex (north half), OF Quarters 161 B, Yellowstone Lake Mission 66 apartment house, Lake Ranger Station Quarters, Mammoth front row (upstairs apartment - again), Lake Ranger Station Quarters - (again), Lake Mission 66 large house, Lamar Ranger Station Quarters, Mammoth front row (upstairs apartment - again), Mammoth Mission 66 house with a rock garden.

Arriving at Quarters 161B (in front of our car) on 11 July 1957. Quarters 161A (in the shade) was occupied by Les Gunzel (Sub-District Ranger (and my boss), wife Carolyn (who became a good friend of Pat's), and their children - Steve, Donna, and Nettie.



Pat's view south, through the kitchen window of Quarters 161B looking across the Grand Loop Road and straight down the street to the Upper Hamilton Store. Pat worked there in 1955. The building marked Cabin Office and Dorm (for women) burned to the ground in 1955. The building labeled Photo Shop was the Jack Haynes Shop. Quarters 161 was razed in 1970. Map (circa 1941) source: National Park Service Planning Office, Denver, Colorado.

Pat's (and my) best friends at Old Faithful, summer 1957. In the fireplace alcove in our home, 161B. L-R, standing: Ranger-Naturalist Bill Baker, Riley, and Lorraine Baker. Sitting: Pat with Mary Tee, Jane Baker, Jo Nell and Terry Simonian, Vaughn Baker, and Ce Simonian (Ranger-Naturalist Si Simonian took the photo)

Looking 180° from the fireplace, we could see OF Geyser through our livingroom window

Pat with Mary Teresa at Boulder Spring, July 1957

In late summer, we received two orders from the Chief Ranger: (1) Riley would be assigned to the Yosemite Ranger Training School from 22 September-14 December (and orders were to all attending - do not bring your family). Only dormitory space would be provided. (2). Upon return to YNP, we would spend the winter at Old Faithful, snowed in with Ranger Bob Burns, and his wife and child. We disregarded the order to go to Yosemite without family. Pat and I decided we would not split up for three months. We would find accommodations somehow. We moved into a Yosemite Lodge canvas cabin on 22 September. On 8 October, the NPS provided each student who had brought a family (at least four), an old, but livable trailer, that had been hauled up from Lassen Park. We had to pay the transport fee: $186.

Pat with Mary T., looking down on Yosemite Valley, fall 1957.

Pat made friends with other trailer wives, especially Morilla Wasem and Connie Metherall. We left Yosemite on 14 December and moved back to “our” geyser house on 17 December.

Prior to each of our four snowed-in winters at Old Faithful, Pat prepared a list of groceries we would need for six months. We filled out an order booklet and purchased from a grocer at either Jackson, WY, or West Yellowstone, MT. My companion ranger and I were allowed to use a Park horse trailer to transport the supplies.

The kitchen was equipped with an old, but good, wood-burning stove with a nice oven. A water tank connected to the stove provided hot water. Pat quickly learned to do high quality baking (bread, pies, etc.). The living room was heated by a fireplace and a wood-burning stove.

There was a water system in the house. The water originated at a warm spring about a mile away. Strings of algae usually came out of the kitchen tap. Electric power for Old Faithful was provided by a large diesel generator, but only in summer. The generator was shut down not long after Labor Day.

We were provided with a small portable Army surplus generator for the winter. It was seldom in operation, no matter how much work we did on it, so we were essentially without electricity in the winter. We didn't mind that at all. Kerosene lamps and Coleman lanterns provided light. On days when we were able to run the generator, Pat and Vivian washed clothes. Both quarters had an electric washing machine.

Without dependable electric power, we had planned on storing some frozen meat in old wood stoves that had been discarded in the area. We put them in a large unheated storage room attached to the living quarters. Eggs were kept in loose oats in a standard metal garbage can, in the cellar below our neighbors' kitchen. We used dry milk powder for cereal and the kids' drinks.

After shoveling the roof (required after every snowstorm), Pat couldn't get out the front door until the new blockage was removed.

At Kepler Cascades (Firehole River) Overlook, east of Old Faithful, January 1958.
L-R: Pat holding Mary Teresa, Les Gunzel (Sub-District Ranger (my boss), Vivian Burns, and Bob Burns holding Benny. The Burns were our winter neighbors in the geyser house (161) duplex. Les had driven out from Mammoth in an oversnow vehicle, an Army surplus "Weasel."

An astounding number of pine marten made their winter den in our attic during each of the four winters we spent at Old Faithful. Pat documented 24 different individuals our first winter. She differentiated them by size, variations in fur color, and other unique characteristics. There were numerous young ones by late winter. The marten had frequent squabbles at night and their racket often woke us up.
They all were gone by spring and did not return until late fall.

This was a time when isolated families seemed top feel more of a kinship with wildlife. Marten probably had been winter residents in "our" attic since not long after the building was constructed, in 1929 (originally it was the Old Faithful Museum).

A mule deer doe and her two fawns hung around our quarters all four winters. Can't remember, but the two fawns may have helped Pat and the kids build this snowman.

Pat and Mary T. on a winter walk at Old Faithful, February 1958.

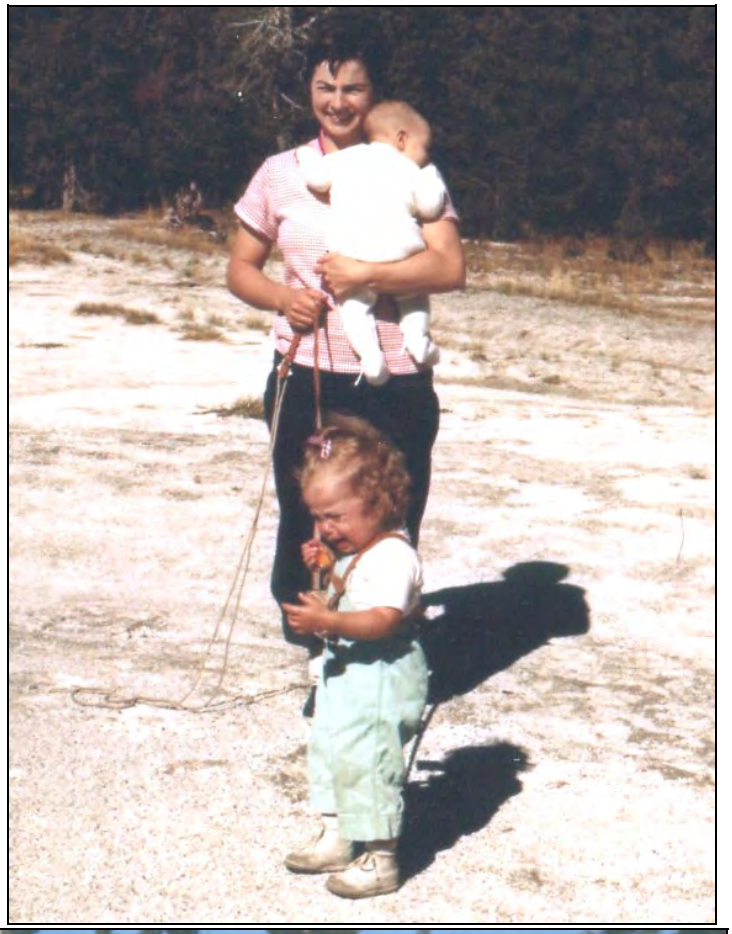
In February, we also walked to Castle Geyser.

We had another summer and winter ahead of us at our Eden - Old Faithful. Pat was ready to add another member to our family in summer 1958. On 13 June, Pat's labor began early and we headed to Mammoth, 51 miles away. Dr. Baskett delivered Kevin at 12:22 P.M., 13 June.

Pat brings Kevin home (Old Faithful) after his 13 June 1958 birth at the Mammoth Hospital.

Kevin was our only child born within Yellowstone National Park. The Mammoth Hospital was left over from the U.S. Cavalry management days (ending in 1918) in the Park. The Hospital was built in 1911 and razed in 1965.

Pat had an upsetting couple of days after Kevin's delivery. In the room next to hers there was a severely burned young boy (Danny, about nine yrs old). He was dying from third degree burns over his body below his neck. He had fallen into Ojo Caliente Hot Spring, in the Lower Geyser Basin. He had been running ahead of his father, backwards, Vapor enveloped him and he did not see the scalding pool ahead before falling in.



Pat with her hands full, holding Kevin and trying to control Tee. Near Daisy Geyser, August 1968.

Pat with Kevin, near Daisy Geyser, August 1958

Second winter at Old Faithful - this time with the Perkins family

L-R; Riley, Pat, Kevin below, Mary Lou Perkins, Mary T, McC below, Bob and Jim Perkins

January 1959, small hill near Old Faithful Geyser

We moved to Snake River (South Entrance), 29 May 1959

Snake River Entrance quarters (view is the back side of the house). This was a two-story duplex. We lived in the north half (left on the photo). Sub-District Ranger Al Maxey and family were in the south half.

Pat went into labor, late in the afternoon of October 9; we were alone at Snake River. It was a 146-mile drive from Snake to the Livingston Hospital and it was dark before we headed out. The road from Snake to Thumb was closed to the public because of snow and ice, so it was a very unnerving experience. We left Tee and Kevin with the Perkins, at Old Faithful, and completed the stressful drive. Jane was delivered by Dr. Baskett at 12:08 P.M., 10 October. Looking back on the episode, we had taken an awful risk.

Pat's Mother came to stay with us and help Pat with the kids for a week.

Pat arrives back at Snake River, with Jane, born in the Livingston Hospital, 10 October 1959

When Jane was only a year old, she made her arguments by having a tantrum until she stopped breathing. When Pat or I shook her, she resumed breathing.

Before Jane's birth, we experienced a startling event. We were asleep in our Snake River house on 17 August 1959 when an earthquake roused us at 11:38 P.M.. We had commonly felt mild earth tremors at Old Faithful; this one seemed much stronger. The house shook strongly, but we were yet to learn how major it really was.
Shortly, we received a phone call from headquarters telling me to close South Entrance and to allow no entries. It was a 7.1 quake; a large landslide dammed the Madison River, forming Earthquake Lake. A slide buried a campground in the Madison Canyon, entombing 19 people. Nine people at nearby sites also died. The behavior of most hot springs and geysers showed significant change, at least initially.

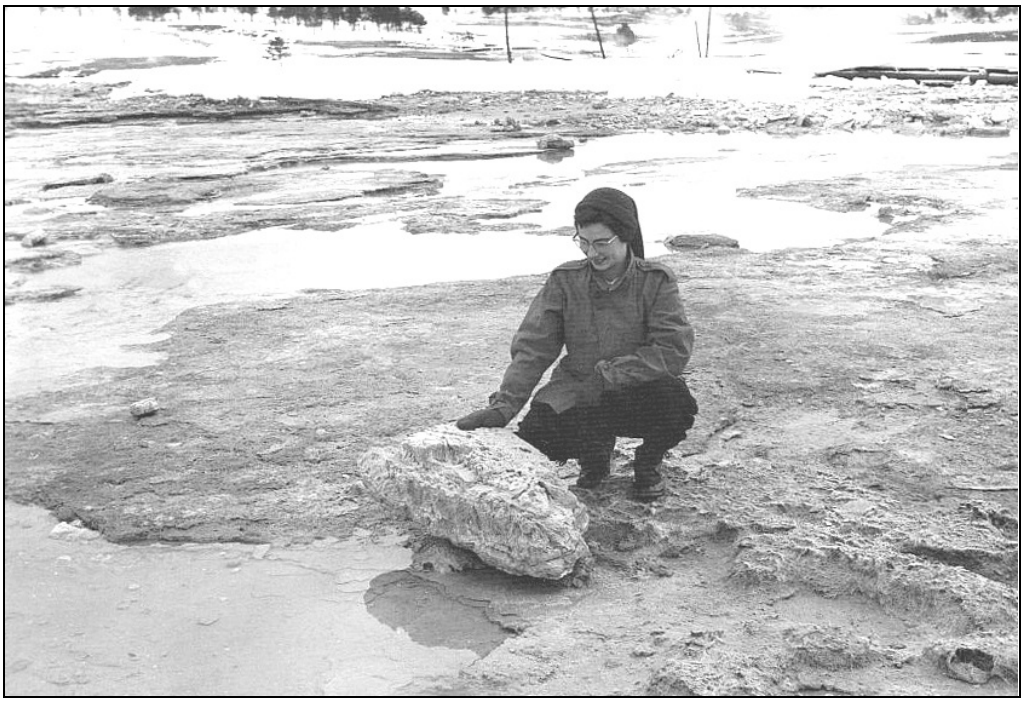
We badly wanted to spend the 1959-60 winter at Old Faithful again, to study the changes. It took a lot of campaigning, but we finally received the assignment back to our favorite place in the World. On 20 November, we moved back into 161B, the geyser house. Our winter neighbors in the duplex were the Petersons: Del, Barbara, and Susan.

Some aspects were very different; there was commercial electrical power. Transmission lines entering the Park, near Mammoth and extending to Old Faithful, had been completed during the 1959 summer. This ended the previous summer electricity source, a large diesel generator that provided power to the Old Faithful area. Having regular electrical power was a luxury with benefits and disadvantages. Some of the rustic atmosphere was gone, but it was convenient for Pat to have a more or less dependable source of electricity. Commercial power lines throughout the Park created significant landscape scars. Pat would have much rather had the previous primitive housing and avoid scarring the landscape if she had a choice. We of course had no voice in the "progress."

The wood burning kitchen stove had been replaced with an electric range.*
The oven worked only with electricity, but there was a firebox (for burning wood) for heating the stove top when the power was off. We also had the same old Army surplus gasoline generator for theoretical use as a backup when the commercial power went out. The livingroom wood stove had been replaced with an oil-burning stove.

* When we were at Snake River Entrance, in summer 1959, we heard that "our" Old Faithful wood stove had been replaced and was going to be sent to the dump. Pat loved the stove (after two winters of using it) and wanted it. A friend volunteered to pick it up and bring it to Snake River for us. It was delivered and we stored it with other old stuff in the horse barn, hoping to put it to use someday. We placed a prominent tag on it, with our name and details of how we obtained the stove. Our friend, Bert McLaren (ranger) was stationed at Snake the summer of 1960. He gave the stove to a friend of his - we had lost it forever. Bert claimed that he didn't see any tag on it.

Pat and the kids viewing an eruption of Sapphire Pool, after the August 1959 Earthquake.



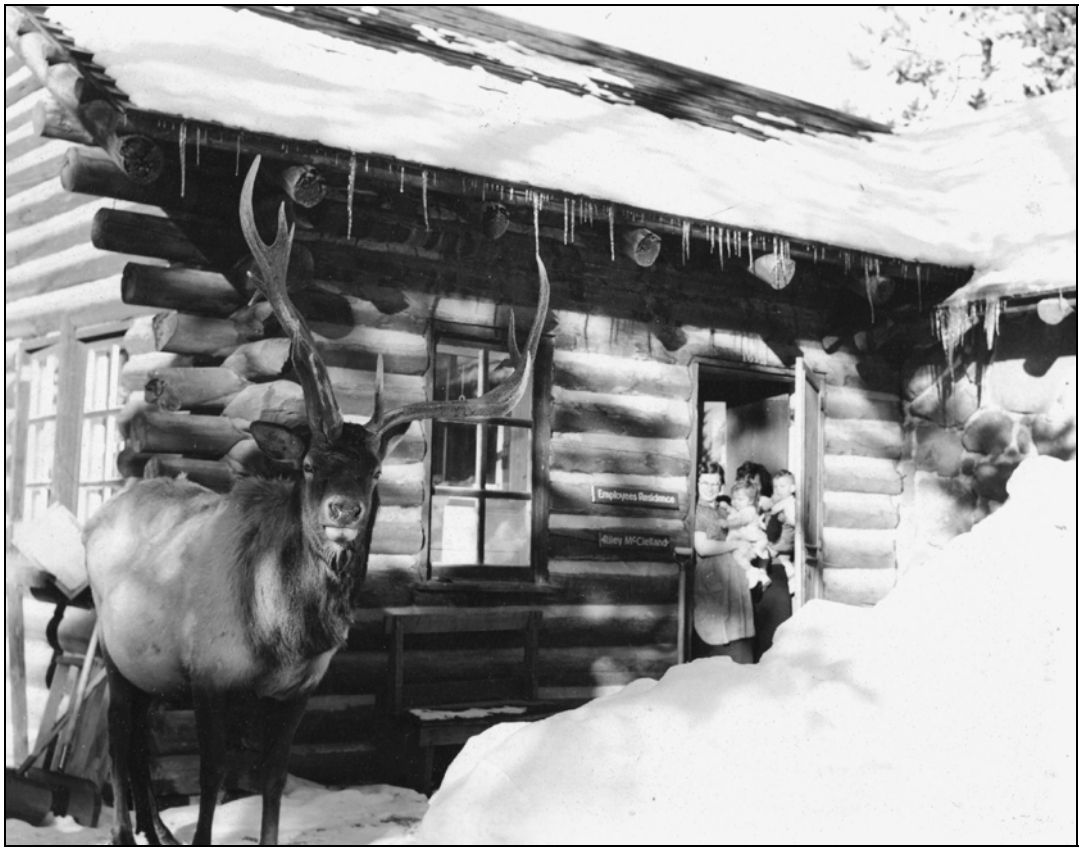
Pat viewing a large block of geyserite blown out of Sapphire Pool's rim by a powerful eruption during January 1960.

Pat, Tee, Kevin, near our house at Old Faithful (Geyser under Pat's left arm), January 1960.

Pat and Jane, Old Faithful, late winter 1960, on obsidian sand where snow melted as it fell.

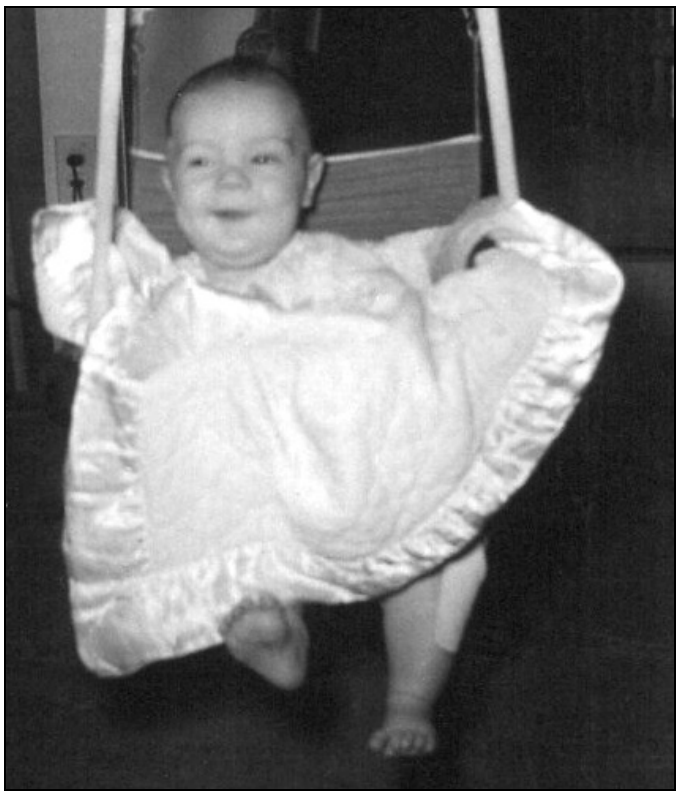
During our fourth and final winter at Old Faithful, with super nice people - Darrell (Ranger), Jean, Kenny, and Carol Coe - we took a big risk on the birth of Kerry. He was due the end of January. We had talked it over with the Coes and they were fine with our either delivering at home or trying to get to Ashton, Idaho, when the time came. By mid-January, Superintendent Lon Garrison (a very nice person and generally a good superintendent) got in a panic with the thought of Pat birthing at home. On 19 January, he sent me an order to move Pat to West Yellowstone immediately, so that we could get to Ashton more quickly for the birth. That upset Pat so much that she went into labor the next day, 20 January.

We phoned Harold Young in West Yellowstone (he operated the commercial Bombardier tours from West Yellowstone to Old Faithful on weekends). We left the three children with the Coes. Harold drove to OF in the Bombardier, picked us up midday (20 January), and transported us the 30 miles to West Yellowstone. We had left our automobile in a garage at West for the winter. By the time I finished installing the battery, it was dark outside. We drove the 55 miles to Ashton, on an icy road. At the Ashton Hospital, Dr. Melcher checked Pat at midnight and told us it would be some time before she was ready to deliver. He said he would return in an hour and he went home. Within a few minutes after his departure, Pat went into strong labor and Kerry was born at 12:23 A.M. (21 January), delivered by me and the lone Registered Nurse on duty. Riley's Mother took the train from Denver to West Yellowstone a few days later and returned with us to OF via Bombardier. All's well that ends well.



Pat with Jane, Jean Coe with Kenny. During the 60-61 winter at Old Faithful we had several visits from the Three-antlered Elk. We had known him since 1956. He died spring 1961.

Riley's Mother stayed a week with us at Old Faithful, then returned to Denver the same way she had arrived - train from West Yellowstone.



Kerry at Old Faithful, spring 1961

Move to Lake, the Mission 66 apartment house, 10 May 1961

Pat bathing Kerry in the kitchen sink Lake apartment, June 1961

We moved from the Lake Apartment to the Lake Ranger Station, 15 September 1961.

Old view of the Lake Ranger Station (right side, built in 1922) and Living Quarters (far left, added in 1930).

Pat preparing food in the Lake Ranger Station kitchen, fall 1961. Kerry in the high chair.

The Lake Ranger Station and Quarters were only 20 feet from the Grand Loop Road. Yellowstone Lake was only ten feet from the far side of the Road. Pat's favorite snag was directly out the house walkway (November 1961 photo).

We moved from the Lake Ranger Station back to Mammoth on 16 December 1961.

Front row Quadraplex. We lived in the upstairs apartment (right side of the photo).

Sidestepping up the Undine Ski Hill, east of Mammoth, after the rope tow had stopped. Front to back: Jane, Kevin, Tee, Pat with Kerry and Terence (February 1965).

Winters of 1961-62, 63-64, and 64-65 we lived in Mammoth. Pat and I took the kids (only Mary Tee and Kevin were old enough) skiing at Undine Hill most weekends and holidays. It always depended on the availability of a qualified person to run the generator. The generator ran the rope tow. An effort to upgrade the lift system 1993 ran into intense opposition, (Missoulian article 30 October 1993).

Critics slam park's new lift

Environmental impacts, use of school funds spark criticism

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) – Replacement of a 1,000-foot tow rope at a members-only ski hill near Undine Falls in Yellowstone National Park is being criticized by some park residents and an environmental group.

The small ski area five miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs and just off the Roosevelt Road has been in use since 1949.

It traditionally has been used a couple of days each week during the winter by students at the Mammoth School and a 50-family ski club, said Yellowstone Assistant Superintendent Joseph Alston.

But a $31,000 poma lift, due to open by Jan. 1 and paid for with school capital improvement funds, is replacing the tow rope, which engineers had deemed unsafe, Alston said.

The entire project will cost about $50,000, although the labor cost is being reduced by volunteers, he said.

"Once the Mammoth School Board made the decision to keep the ski area open, then it became their responsibility to make it safe," said Alston.

"Kids were getting injured up there. It was such a long tow. The engineer said it was the longest tow in the country. Sometimes it would bind and drag a kid up the hill a ways. It really was a dangerous situation," said Alston.

But some park residents, including several who attended a Yellowstone Park Ski Club meeting Tuesday evening, disagreed with Alston.

"I object to them using the school's capital improvement fund for something that is inappropriate in a national park," said Deb Bahr. "They are using money for skiing that was supposed to go toward a sprinkler system and a concrete ramp at the school."

However, Alston said the sprinkler system already has been installed in the school and other necessary improvements have been made to the building.

"It may seem incongruent that kids living in Yellowstone need additional recreation, but we live at the end of a 65-mile-long dead end and the kids really have nothing to do here in the winter," said Alston, a former member of the ski club.

The Yellowstone Ski Association has been in existence for many years and is not affiliated with the park or the National Park Service, said park spokesperson Marsha Karle.

"Actually, anyone who comes down here can join the club for $15 and ski," said Alston. "It is not restricted to park employees or residents."

Mammoth School Principal John Whitman said he feels use of the money for the new poma lift is warranted.

"This is an appropriate use of what we call 604 funds," he said. "The money can be used to educate the children of National Park Service people and further the education of children living around Yellowstone National Park."

Alston said the 604 funds come from gate receipts at park entrances.

Both Alston and Whitman said the park did not have to file an environmental assessment or impact statement, since the ski area was approved in a recent winter use plan.

But Mike Scott of the Montana office of The Wilderness Society disagrees with that decision.

"Ski areas are one of the important recreational uses of lands in our area, but they have no place in Yellowstone National Park," he said. "By the Park Service's own directives when they were trying to get rid of a ski area in Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park, they have ruled that no new ski areas should be built."

Alston claims the Undine ski lift is not a new ski area but only the replacement of an existing area.

Followup one year later (November 1994), next page.

YELLOWSTONE PUTS SKIDS ON PLANS FOR SKI AREA

By Associated Press

Nov 4, 1994, 12:00am MST

The acting superintendent of Yellowstone National Park has shut down the Undine ski hill and ordered the removal of some $70,000 in improvements begun last winter.

The public perception is that the ski area, used almost exclusively by park employees, is too fancy, Richard B. Smith said in a Nov. 1 memorandum. He ordered the concrete tower bases for a Poma ski lift to be torn down and the area revegetated by next Sept. 30.

"Much of the public controversy during last winter's debate centered on a ski area that seemed to exist for the semi-exclusive use of park employees and the residents of Gardiner, another example of a federal agency providing its employees and local residents with a privilege not readily available to others outside this select group," Smith wrote.

"People opposed to the area found this particularly difficult to understand since park and Gardiner residents live only 90 or so miles from two of the finest alpine areas in the West." The ski lift, which was to run 250 vertical feet, was supposed to replace a rope tow that had been declared unsafe.

"I direct the (park's) maintenance division to remove the concrete tower bases, the warming hut, pit toilet, road signs and related equipment," Smith ordered. Last winter, when park crewmen cut down about 20 trees and put up tall towers to make room for the lift. Some Gardiner-Mammoth residents were angry about it.

The rope tow had been used for decades on weekend afternoons by a small group of Yellowstone employees and their families in Mammoth and Gardiner. The Mammoth School Board bought a used Poma lift and was planning to teach students to ski there. Because of the controversy, in January of this year, former Yellowstone Superintendent Bob Barbee appointed a panel to review the park's decision to install the lift. Smith rejected the panel's recommendation to do an environmental assessment before making his final decision, saying the issues were not environmental.

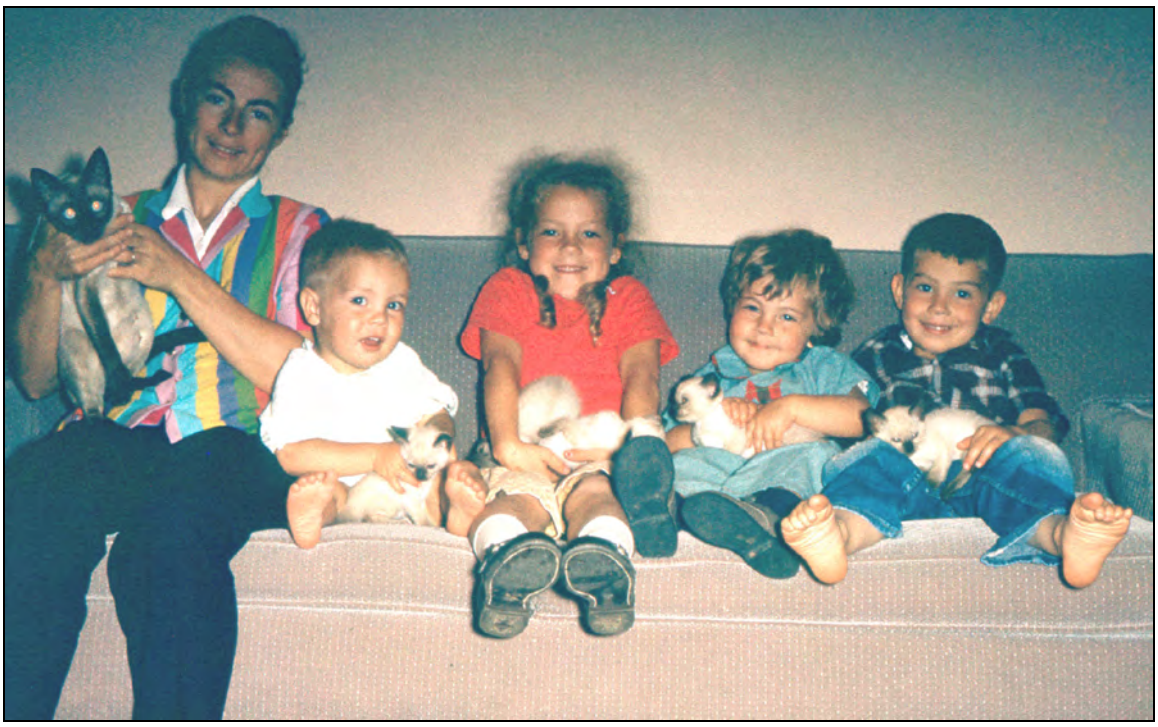
"The real issues at Undine are symbolic and relate to how the public views the park, its employees and its closest neighbors," Smith wrote.

Because Yellowstone is such a famous park, its managers and employees live and work in an international fishbowl, Smith added. "We must not allow even the appearance of impropriety to undermine or compromise our ability to manage the park," he wrote.

Next, a move back to Yellowstone Lake.

Pat and the kids on snow-covered Fishing Bridge. L-R: Pat holding Kerry, Kevin, Jane, and Tee. We were the first residents back to Yellowstone Lake in the spring. We followed the rotary snowplow into the area on 27 March 1962. We moved back into the old Ranger Station Quarters by the Lake. On 2 May, we moved into a Mission 66 three-bedroom house for the remainder of the spring and summer.

In our home at Lake, summer 1962



Pat with Karen (Siamese female cat) and the kids with Karen's kittens, at our Yellowstone Lake house, fall 1962 (Karen was abandoned in the Lake area. After we took her in, she had kittens in Pat's bed. Our friend Margaret Altmann found homes for them. Margaret was an ethologist conducting field research on elk behavior near Yellowstone's southern border.

One of our most memorable experiences while stationed at Lake was a boat trip to deliver supplies for the Thorofare Ranger Station. I received permission for the family to go along. It was a long trip on the lake, nearly two hours one way. We (just me and the family)went in a gas motor supply barge from the Lake Dock to the southernmost shore of the Southeast Arm of Yellowstone Lake. It was a sunny warm day and I hoped that the weather would hold. The barge was entirely open, with no cover, so there was no protection from any storm.

All went well on the first half of the trip. Supplies were delivered. On the return, about half an hour out, the barge's motor stopped and would not restart. There was a moderate southwest wind, so I was concerned that we would be blown to shore and ruin the propellers. When we were a few hundred feet from shore, I put out the anchor and fortunately it hit bottom, to hold us in place. I radioed the Lake Ranger Station and explained the problem (it might have been a rather serious condition if I had not been able to make that contact).

Pat and the kids were exposed to the hot sun and drying win. Pat had her hands full while I tried to determine what was wrong with the engine - with no tools and no expertise, I made no progress. Fortunately, a patrol boat was dispatched and eventually arrived with a mechanic on board. He found parts that needed to be replaced and he had them with him. Finally, we pulled anchor and resumed the trip back to the Lake Dock. There were no further difficulties. All's well that ends well, as we keep saying.

In late summer, the Chief Ranger released his winter assignment lists. We would be to the Lamar Valley. We moved into the Lamar Ranger Station on 9 October 1962.

Lamar Ranger Station/Quarters, fall 1962

We had two horses for the winter at Lamar. Pat oversaw horseback experiences for all four children, in this view, Kerry and Jane.

Riley transferred from the ranger position at Lamar to North District Naturalist, at Mammoth. We moved back to the Mammoth Front Row apartment, on 5 May 1963.

Kerry and Pat tending to Terence Michael in the Mammoth apartment. Terence was born at 6:55 A.M. (23 April 1963), at the Livingston Hospital, delivered by Dr. Baskett.

Christmas photo, 1964. L-R: Kevin, Kerry, Riley, Pat, Terence, Jane, and Mary T. Photo in our upstairs apartment, Front Row house, Mammoth, photo by Bill Keller.

And our final move within YNP, to the Mission 66 Rock Garden house, in Mammoth, 20 November 1963.

The kids in the yard at the Mammoth rock garden house, summer 1964.

Mission 66 Housing complex at Mammoth. Our house is second from the bottom, second row from the left. The long building at the bottom is the Mammoth Elementary School.

Our last winter trip to Norris to check on Steamboat Geyser, January 1964. The road had been plowed for construction work and was open to employees on weekends.

We “delivered” a full term, stillborn boy in our car (we just pulled to the side of the road - the birth would not wait) on the way from Mammoth to Livingston, 8 November 1964. He was buried in the Livingston cemetery.

11 March to 1 May 1965, Riley was assigned to a training session at Harper’s Ferry Interpretive Training Center (West Virginia); Pat and children stayed with her parents, in Granville, Ohio.

2-19 May 1965, back to our Rock Garden house before our transfer from YNP to GNP.

Part 3: Arrival at Glacier National Park (May 1965), Living at West Glacier, Living at St. Mary (Summer 1967), Move to Ft. Collins and classes at Colorado State University (Fall 1967-Summer 1968), Move back to Glacier (Summer 1968), Move to basement cabin in West Glacier, Move to Missoula, Pat earns an MS degree in Wildlife Biology, University of Montana (1992)

YELLOWSTONE TO GLACIER

Riley's YNP North District Naturalist position was abolished in May 1965. Once again Pat had to pack up everything for a move - this time out of the YNP that we all loved. I was assigned to Glacier National Park, in another Naturalist position.

En route to Kalispell, Mary Tee's right arm was giving her a lot of pain. She had taken a hard fall in Mammoth just before departure. We stopped at the Kalispell Hospital to have her arm x-rayed - it was broken and she received a plaster cast. Kerry had a severe cold and it was diagnosed as pneumonia. He would have to remain in the Hospital overnight. I had to report for duty at Glacier (22 May), so I went on to Glacier, leaving Pat without a car. Kerry improved. When he was released, Dr. Hensler loaned a car to Pat so that she could get the five kids on to their new home in West Glacier. We returned the car to Dr. Hensler after a few days.

We established a regular schedule of family skiing at Big Mountain, on weekends. Pat helped Terence with the rope tow - what a Mom! This is March 1966 action.

Pat's teacher education and credentials soon came into use at West Glacier. Women in the Park Headquarters community and West Glacier Elementary School Principal Richard Rensel convinced her to set up a kindergarten class in fall 1967 (for which she volunteered her time). Her class was held in the Elementary School multipurpose room. Pat ran the kindergarten 1966-67, 1968-69, and 1969-70 (missing the year we were in Ft. Collins, CO).

On 21 February 1967, Pat wrote to Hungry Horse News editor Mel Ruder about the unique arrangement: "Dear Mr. Ruder, In any publicity about the West Glacier Kindergarten, it is important to mention that the kindergarten is a cooperative effort of all the parents concerned. Mrs. Sellers handles the business, Mr. Rensel coordinates our program with the school, Mrs. Wasem babysits for my pre-school child, with the remainder donating time, transportation and additional supplies as needed. The school board kindly approved use of the school for such a cooperative non-profit program. Sincerely, Mrs. B. Riley McClelland."

Rensel taught Fifth and Sixth grades (two grades were combined for each of three teachers). Rensel's wife, Sharon, had increasing health problems in the late1960s and early 1970s. Rensel became dependant on Pat as a spur of the moment substitute teacher for his class. There were mornings (apparently when Sharon Rensel became suddenly ill) when Pat received a phone call from Rensel an hour or less before school start time. He wanted her to sub for him right away. Pat did her best to comply. A decade later, he "repaid" her by exhibiting hatred for our entire family, for reasons we never understood.

Pat and her kindergarten class of 1966-1967. L-R, back row: Bear Rensel, Kerry McClelland, and Eddie Sellers, front row: ...?, ...?, and Karen Wasem.

The Wasems, Bob and Marilla (daughters Bonnie and Karen, and son Michael) were our best friends in West Glacier. In 1986, we were shocked to hear that Karen (married, living near Seattle) was murdered by an intruder in her house.

Especially in their youngest years, our five kids participated in many wonderful hikes and skis.

McClelland family skiing at Big Mountain, Whitefish, MT. L-R: Kerry, Pat, Terence, Jane, Tee, and Kevin, February 1967.

Pat McClelland at the top of Big Mountain Ski Area, March 1967.

We were assigned to the East District in spring 1967. We moved on 2 June and lived in the old 1913 Ranger Station, about half a mile from St. Mary Lake. Pat and kids on porch in photo.

Near the end of the summer, District Ranger Bob Frauson found a stray dog (collie/mix) roaming the St. Mary area. He asked us if we could take care of it for a few days until he could take it to a shelter. Pat and Riley and the kids all said sure! Laddie became our dog until his death in 1980.

In August, we were informed that the NPS would send us to Colorado State University, where Riley could earn a Master's Degree in Resource Management (emphasis on the ecosystem concept) in a year. We moved to 3609 Lynda Lane, Ft. Collins, on 15 September. We were four miles from the Colorado State University campus.

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The kids and Pat's favorite animals - horses, at Ft. Collins, in the fenced one-half acre that came with the house rental.

In front of our Ft, Collins rental. The kids, with Pat's parents, Peg and Harry Truman.

During spring break 1968, at CSU, we took a family ski trip to Steamboat Springs, Colorado (thanks Tee, for taking this photo).

During 1967-1968 at CSU, Pat took courses Field Botany, taught by Prof. Bruno Klinger, and Ornithology, taught by Prof. Keith Baldwin. Pat earned an A in both courses, naturally. I completed work on the MS and with our mission accomplished at CSU, we returned to Glacier on 8 September (after much consternation and frustration; we had not been guaranteed reassignment back to GNP).

We moved into another Mission 66 house, on the northeast portion of the Headquaters development at West Glacier. We could once again take advantage of the opportunities for skiing and hiking in GNP.

Front-Back: Pat, Kevin, Tee, Kerry, Jane, Terence, skiing down from Garry Lookout, Laddie looking on, February 1970.

Skating at John's Lake: Pat, Tee, Terence, Kerry, and Jane, January 1971.

Pat with Kevin and Jane, on the Boulder Pass Trail, 26August 1971

McClelland family at Belly River Ranger Station, a Memorial Day weekend hike with overnight at the Station. No one else in the entire drainage!
20 May1972. L-R: Terence, Kerry, Kevin, Mary Tee, Jane, and Pat.

In summer 1973, Riley was fired for refusing to transfer to Omaha, Nebraska (see Riley's Memoirs for details on the issue). On 4 August, we moved into a one-room cabin we had built, just off Sloan Lane, a mile west of West Glacier.

Pat working at our basement cabin. She made the best of every situation.

Riley and Pat inside their West Glacier cabin in 1973.

In September 1973, we moved to Missoula. Pat took courses at the University of Montana, to maintain her teaching certificate:
1974 (winter) Art of North American Indians, Teacher Effectiveness Training
1974 (summer) Montana and the West (K. Ross Toole), Photographic Printmaking
1978 (summer) American Indian Culture, Education Conference
1980 (winter) Photography, Audiovisual Equipment, Racquetball, Bird Ecology
1982 (summer) Designs in Nature
1982 (28 August - 1 September) Yellowstone Institute course "Yellowstone in Watercolor," cabin at Lamar, YNP Pat, Peg, and Marian
1984 Arctic & Alpine Ecology (Jonkel), Mammalogy (Wright), Animal Behavior (Jenny)
1985 World Wildlife Overview, Ethology Seminar, Mammal Conservation

Pat served as a substitute teacher or librarian (Missoula elementary schools) on numerous occasions. She often received commendations for her work.

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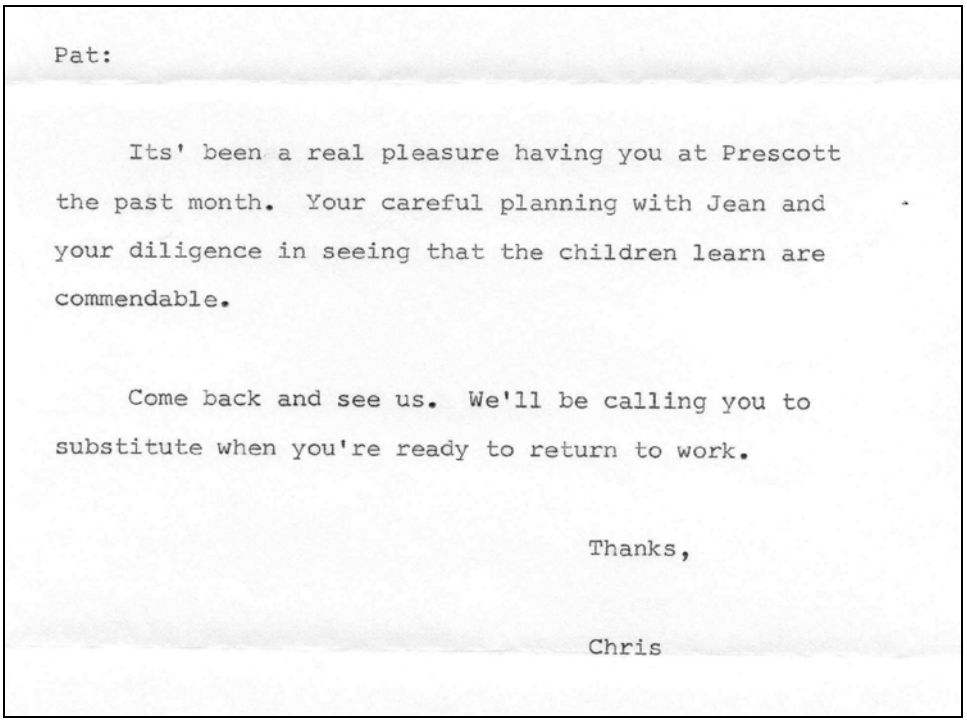


Pat:

Its' been a real pleasure having you at Prescott the past month. Your careful planning with Jean and your diligence in seeing that the children learn are commendable.

Come back and see us. We'll be calling you to substitute when you're ready to return to work.

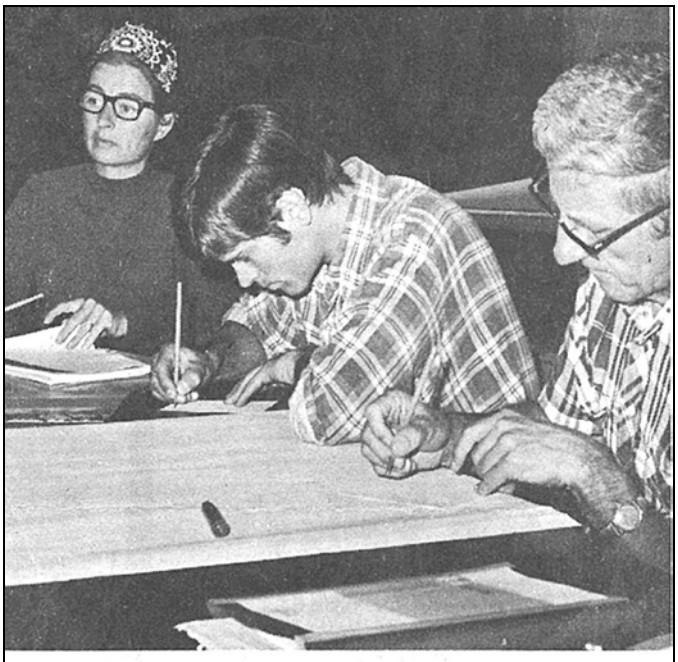
Thanks,

Chris

Letter from Missoula Prescott Public school Principal, 10 February 1977.

We purchased a home in Missoula, in 1973 and moved in for the school year, 1973-74.

Pat and Riley at our Missoula House, 1612 Bel Air Place (1974)



FIRE WORKSHOP — Pat McClelland, West Glacier; Chris Tesar, Hungry Horse and Dr. Loren Kreck, Columbia Falls, ponder their concerns Monday night about fire management in Glacier National Park.

Pat, still involved with GNP issues, at a Fire Management Meeting in June 1977

Pat's father died in 1978, leaving Pat's Mother and Aunt to get by on their own in Granville, Ohio. They had been doing that since Harry's disabling stroke, in 1974. Pat made trips to Granville at least once each year after Harry's death.

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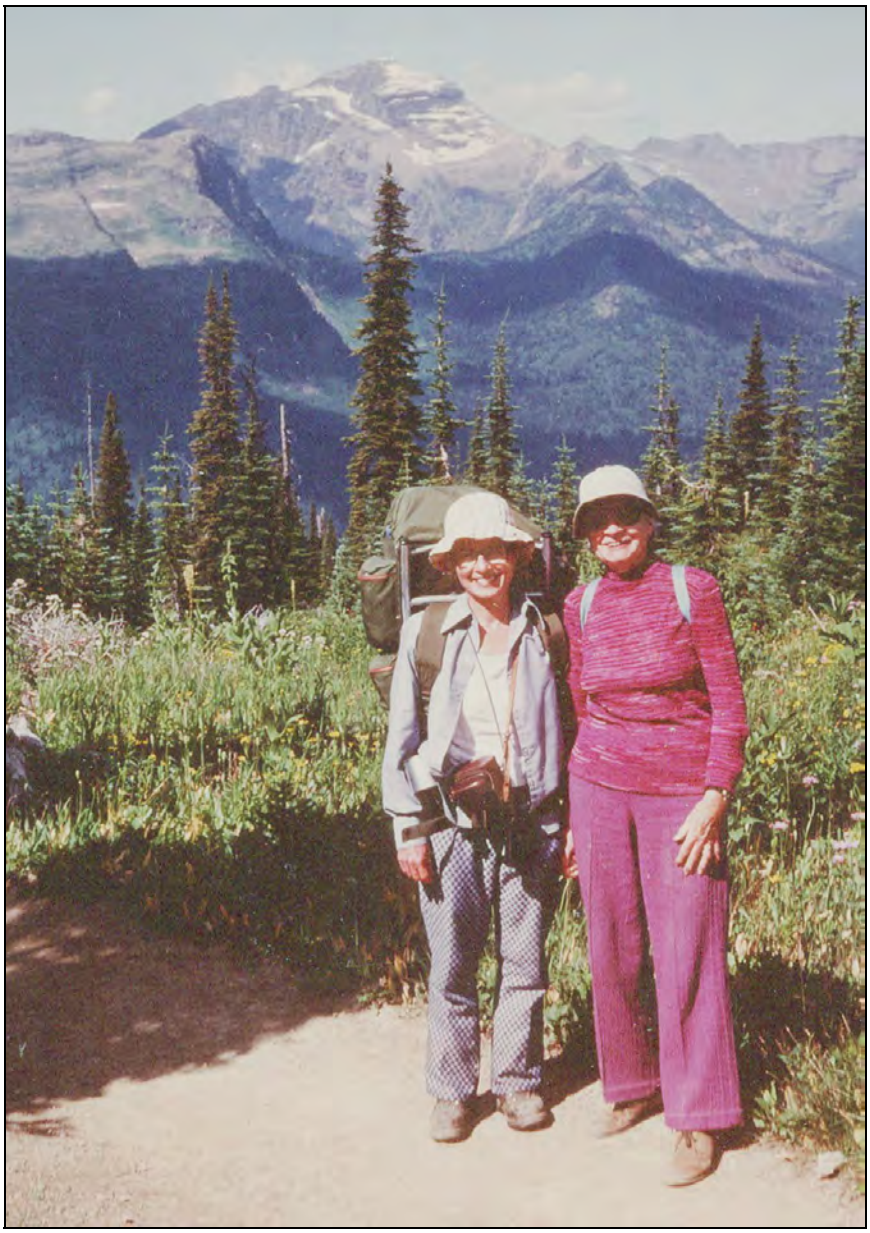


Pat and Peg, near Granite Park Chalet, where they spent two nights. Riley hiked in with them, on the Highline Trail. He returned via the Highline to Logan Pass, after they were safely at the Chalet (27 July 1980). On the 29th, Riley returned to the Chalet via the Loop Trail and accompanied them down the Loop Trail.

When Riley was reinstated in Glacier, after a favorable decision from the U.S. Court of Appeals in D.C., we were assigned to House #10. At that time we were in the midst of the Bald Eagle migration research project. We were spending fall quarter (U of MT) and summer in GNP and the rest of the school year in Missoula.

Pat prepared a scrumptious dinner for Christmas, 1983, in House #10, at GNP Headquarters. The turkey took an alternate route - from oven to floor to table. We lived in House #10 summer and fall, 1980-84, doing research in the Park. I was on a split appointment, with winter and spring quarters teaching at U of MT, Missoula.

Riley and Pat (the smiling, optimistic one) in Glacier National Park Headquarters House #1. This house originally was built for the Park's assistant superintendent, in 1932 (photo 1984).

Pat loved snow. We had some good storms in Glacier. This is a view of our House #1, January 1991. We lived in House #1 summer and fall, 1984-91.

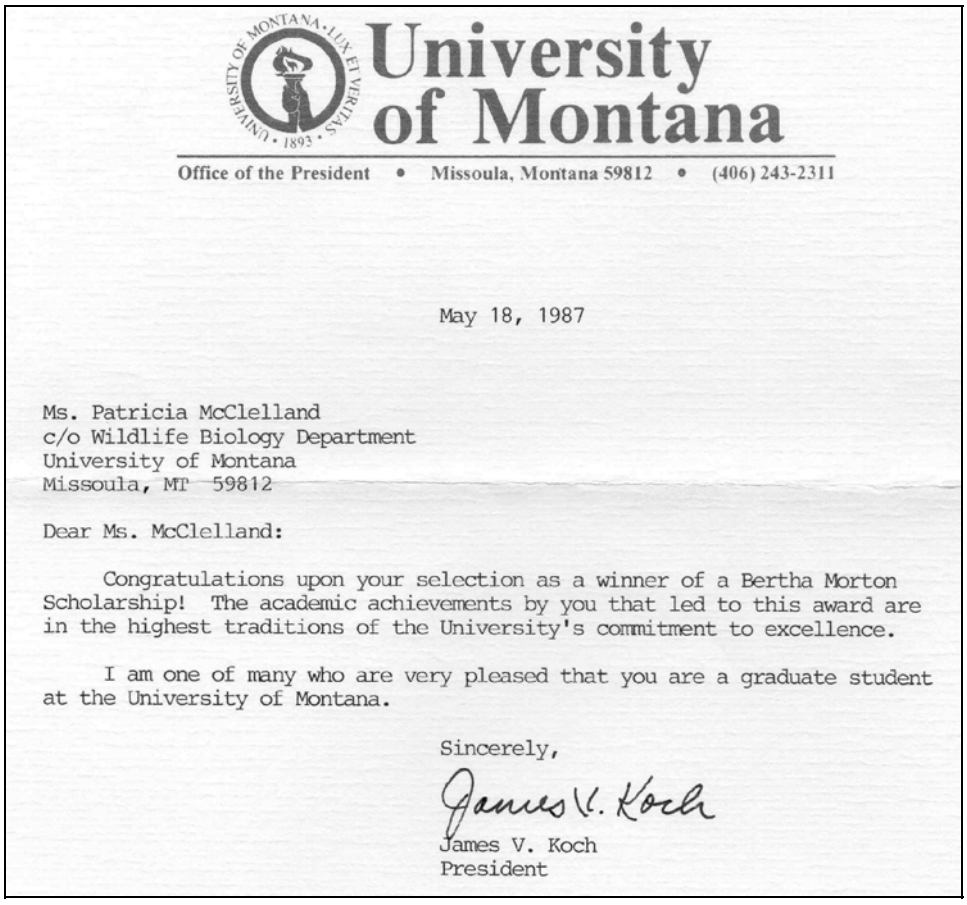
Pat getting ready to ski down after a night in Apgar Lookout, Xmas 1983

Pat with Tuffy, hiking up the Coal Ridge Lookout Trail, August 1984.

In 1984, Pat joined her Mother and Aunt on a Holland America cruise to Alaska. The ship made a half-day stop in Juneau (12 June), where I met Pat. I had a student (Steve Cain) doing a Master's study of a Bald Eagle nesting pair on Admiralty Island, near Juneau. Pat and I joined the student for a few hours discussing about Steve's study, and visited Mendenhall Glacier. Pat returned to the cruise and I remained with Steve for a few more days. On 13 June Steve and I went to Admiralty Island via a small motor boat, to view the nest site, and capture (for leg banding) an adult Bald Eagle. The capture was accomplished on the water, using a floating fish lure with a fishing line snare. After the work with Steve, I flew back to Missoula on a commercial jet.

Peg, Pat, and Marian, 11 May 1985, in Costa Mesa, California.

Pat applied for Graduate School in January 1986, with recommendations from Drs. Chuck Jonkel, Les Pengelly, and Phillip Wright. After acceptance, courses she took included: Animal Behavior, Plant Ecology (Habeck), Statistics, Fisheries, Vegetation of the Pacific Northwest (Habeck), Evolutionary and Behavioral Ecology, Research Methods, Biological Writing, Applied Statistics Workshop.



University of Montana

Office of the President • Missoula, Montana 59812 • (406) 243-2311

May 18, 1987

Ms. Patricia McClelland
c/o Wildlife Biology Department
University of Montana
Missoula, MT 59812

Dear Ms. McClelland:

Congratulations upon your selection as a winner of a Bertha Morton Scholarship! The academic achievements by you that led to this award are in the highest traditions of the University's commitment to excellence.

I am one of many who are very pleased that you are a graduate student at the University of Montana.

Sincerely,

James V. Koch

James V. Koch
President

Pat was awarded a Bertha Morton Fellowship $1,000 U of M 1987-88 Wildlife biology.

Amidst all of the responsibilities of working on her Master's Degree project, Pat had increasing worries about her Mother and Aunt in Ohio. Pat made arrangement for Peg and Marian to make a permanent move from Granville to Buffalo Hill Terrace (Kalispell), on 15 December 1988. Peg had an increasingly severe heart problem. Peg passed away on 1 May 1992, in the Kalispell Hospital. Prior to Peg's death, Marion declined into severe dementia and had to be placed in the Buffalo Hill Alzheimer's Unit.

It was a difficult time for Pat, just as she was finalizing her Master's study. Pat earned her Master's in Wildlife Biology at the University of Montana, in Spring 1992. Her thesis was: ***Ecology of Bald Eagles at the Hungry Horse Reservoir, Montana***. Her advisor was Dr. Richard Hutto. Other committee members were Drs. Bart O'Gara and Les Marcum.

Pat's research involved a Bald Eagle nesting territory on Clayton Island, in the Reservoir (on the South Fork of the Flathead River). In 1985 and 1986, she studied eagle behavior at the one nest on the Island. The eagle pair produced one surviving eaglet each of the years. Pat captured, banded, and transmitter-equipped both eaglets. She tracked both eaglets to near

Dillon, MT, on the juveniles' first fall migrations.

Pat had assistance from Rick Yates and our son Terence, during the eagle capturing and tagging phase of the project. Pat also had fieldwork assistance from University of Montana student Kenneth "Chip" Houseman. Chip later became an outstanding wildlife cinematographer. He filmed for 18 years, working on species from every continent. In 1998, Chip died on an Airbus flight that crashed in Thailand.

Pat at her Flossy Creek observation point, above Hungry Horse Reservoir. Her scope is pointed at the Clayton Island Bald Eagle nest (out of this photo). Pat is looking at a yellow jacket eating her sandwich crust, June 1985.

Pat with the Clayton Island juvenile Bald Eagle (captured in a leg-hold trap on 21 August 1986). Pat then banded, marked, and transmitter-equipped the eagle. It fledged on 27 July.

Pat and daughter Vita Wright at the graduation ceremony, the University of Montana, 6 June 1992. Pat was receiving her MS and Vita her BS. Vita is adjusting Pat's graduation cap before the ceremony

Part 4: Golden Retrievers, Hike and ski trips, Chronology of our moves to different houses, Planning the completion of the West Glacier cabin (1987), Final home at West Glacier (1991)

GOLDEN RETRIEVERS:

During eagle-tracking trips to Fort Smith, NWT, in the early 1980s, Pat and I become friends with Marilyn and Doug Anions. Doug was a Park Warden at Wood Buffalo National Park. The Anions raised golden retrievers. We decided that we wanted a golden puppy, especially a white one, sometime. We told the Anions that if there was an all white puppy in their next brood, we would be very interested in purchasing it.

In spring 1984, we received a phone call from Marilyn Anions (they had transferred to Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan, by then). She informed us that Holly (their female Golden Retriever) had delivered a litter of pups on 20 March - and it included an all white female. We wanted it!

On 11 May 1984, Marilyn Anions crated Tundra (we didn't give that name to her until we had her for a few days) and put her on a Pacific Western flight to Calgary. Pat drove to Cayley, Alberta, on 10 May and stayed with our friends Jack and Phyllis Shier. On 11 May, Pat drove to Calgary to pick up Tundra at the Calgary Airport. The same day Pat drove back to West Glacier, for Riley's first look at the new family member.

Tundra had one surviving puppy very late in her productive life; she was 9 yrs. old. A cesarean section saved only one out of five full term puppies.

Pat with Tundra, in Missoula,
on 13 May 1984 (55 days old)
(B 03/20/84; D 12/24/98)

Pat with Zoomie, Tundra's puppy,
August 1993
(B 06/14/93; D 08/01/02)

Subsequently, we had three more goldens: Toot (B 06/19/97; D 07/12/04), Ember (B 07/31/03, D 11/16/11), and Dobie (B 01/23/06; D 09/21/18).

Pat and Tundra, 1986

Pat with sleeping friends at West Glacier: Zoomie, Toot, and Sequoia (Vita's dog).

Pat holding her cat, Spider; L-R: Tundra, Zoomie, and Toot, at West Glacier, 13 July 1998.

Pat with Dobie and Pez, 30 July 2013

HIKES:
Our two favorite hikes were Glacier View Mountain and Garry Lookout, both in the Flathead National Forest.

Pat admiring a patch of Rock Harlequin, on the west side of Glacier View Mountain, 3 July 2005. This site burned in 2003. This species' appearance and blooms generally are restricted to within a few years post-fire.

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Pat and Dobie, at the halfway spot, east- side trail to Glacier View Mountain, 6 May 2013

Pat at Lunch Ridge (halfway to the top, on the Glacier View Mtn. Trail, 23 January 1991

Pat. Riley, and Zoomie on the first summit of Glacier View Mountain, 23 January 1991

Pat and Dobie, at Garry Lookout, 4 May 2016.

Pat and Dobie at Garry Lookout, 13 May 2014

Pat skiing on the Apgar Mountains, GNP, Lake McDonald below, 9 February 1972

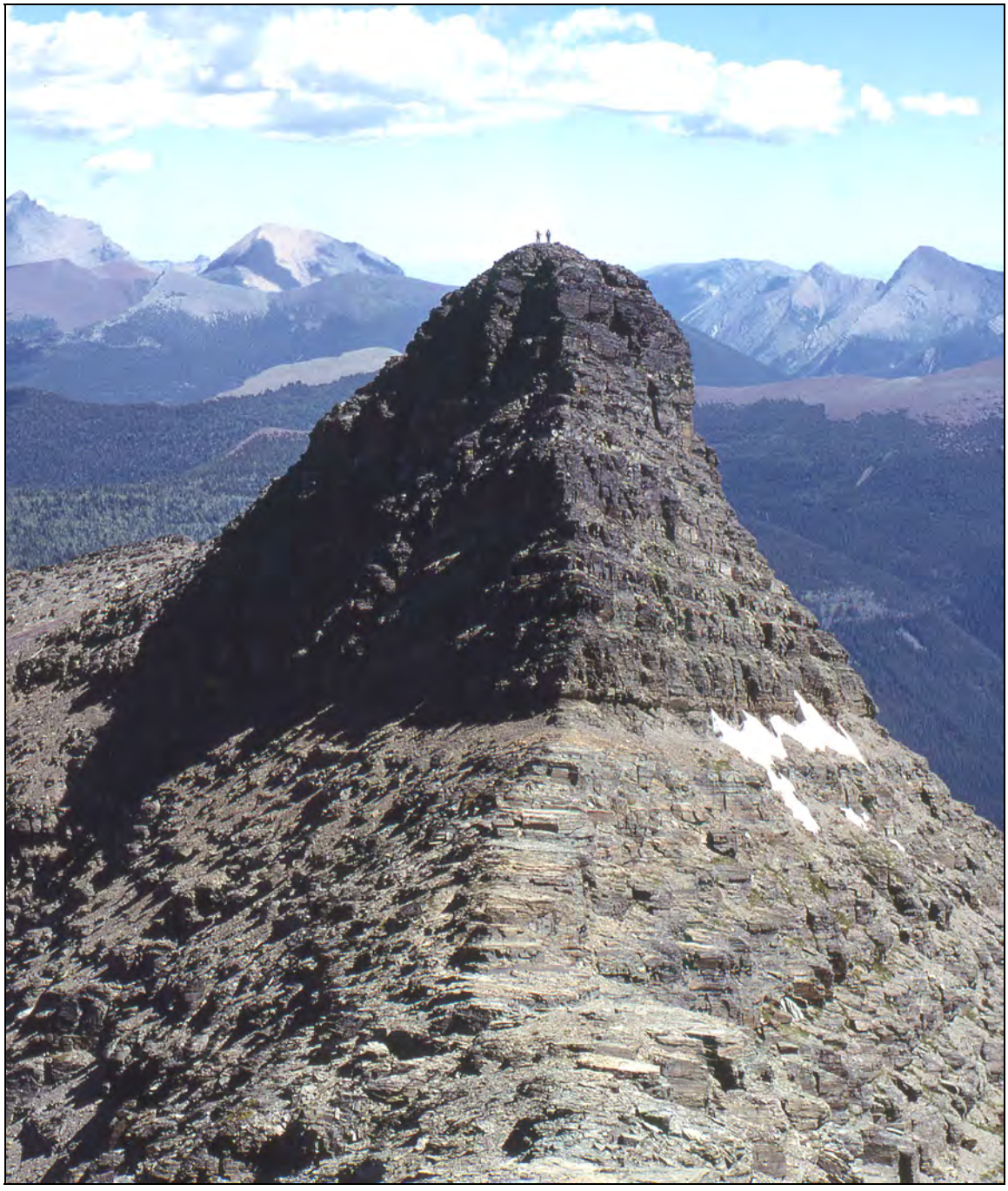
Pat Skiing on Harrison Lake, GNP. 1 February 1992

Pat on a hike to the summit of Clements Mountain, GNP, 28 August 1971

Pat at a huckleberry bush, en route to the summit of Great Northern Mountain, 7 Sept 1975

Pat descending Mount Reynolds, Hidden Lake below, 29 July 1972

Pat climbing Pollock Mountain, GNP, 23 July 1974



Pat and Cindy Mish atop an unnamed peak, photographed from the route up Long Knife Peak, GNP, by Riley McClelland and Jerry DeSanto, 7 August 1976

During our career in the National Park Service (1956-1991), we moved from one house to another 33 times. Imagine the work that entailed for Pat - packing, curtains down, then curtains up, etc., etc. The following pages describe our moves:

RILEY AND PAT MCCLELLAND, FAMILY HOUSES, 1956-1997			
DATES	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	RENTAL RATE
18 Jun 1956- 26 Aug 1956	Yellowstone National Park (YNP) Old Faithful (OF)	The "Dog House" (NPS Cabin #1), a 10 ft by 12 ft frame cabin with a bed, small cookstove, small table, and two chairs, outhouse, water outside at a tap used by four families, low window through which bears looked at us	$4/pay period (a pay period was 2 weeks)
27 Aug 1956- 29 Sep 1956	YNP, OF, near trailer court	West unit of frame triplex (NPS #258-C), oil heater, running water! and windows above bear eye level!	$11.50/pay period
8 Oct 1956- 22 Dec 1956	Carlsbad, New Mexico, 606 West Hagerman, in town	upstairs, in a Quadraplex	?
23 Dec 1956- 30 Mar 1957	Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Headquarters area	single family house (NPS #14B), made of native limestone	$9.50/pay period
7 Apr 1957- 10 Jul 1957	YNP, Mammoth (Park Headquarters)	upstairs apartment (NPS #70Q) in the apartment building	$13/pay period
11 Jul 1957- 15 Sep 1957	YNP, OF	old log museum building converted into a two-family duplex, with a large stone fireplace; near Old Faithful Geyser; we were in the side (161B) nearest the geyser (500 ft.); view of Old Faithful Geyser and part of Geyser Hill	$8.50/pay period

22 Sep 1957- 23 Sep 1957	Yosemite National Park, California, Yosemite Valley	Yosemite Lodge canvas cabin (one night) no bath, toilet, or running water	$6 total
23 Sep 1957- 8 Oct 1957	Yosemite National Park, California, Yosemite Valley	Yosemite Lodge frame cabin (14 nights)$9/night, no bath, toilet, or running water	$126 total
8 Oct 1957- 14 Dec 1957	Yosemite National Park, California, Yosemite Valley	National Park Service trailer hauled to Yosemite from Lassen National Park	paid $96 transport charge, no rent
17 Dec 1957- 29 May 1959	YNP, OF, log duplex near Old Faithful Geyser (same as before Yosemite)	see previous description	$8.50/pay period
29 May 1959- 19 Nov 1959	YNP, Snake River (South) Entrance	Large two-story frame duplex, both units had two floors, we were in the north unit (NPS #211B), generator power, coal furnace, coal/wood kitchen range	$18/pay period
20 Nov 1959- 9 May 1961	YNP, OF, log duplex near Old Faithful Geyser (same as before)	see previous description	$9.50/pay period
10 May 1961- 14 Sep 1961	YNP, Lake, NPS apartment	two-bedroom apartment, east end unit, nearest the NPS maintenance garages, at the same time we moved most of our furniture into apartment #4A in Mammoth (next description); we paid rent for the Mammoth quarters, but not the Lake quarters	$21.50/pay period

15 Sep 1961- 15 Dec 1961	YNP, Lake, Ranger Station Quarters	log quarters attached to the old log ranger station, with the main highway 30 feet in front of the building and Yellowstone Lake immediately across the highway	$21.50/pay period
16 Dec 1961- 26 Mar 1962	YNP, Mammoth, Front Row, Officer's Quarters from Fort Yellowstone	two-bedroom apartment upstairs in a stone and frame Quadraplex (4A)	$21.50/pay period
27 Mar 1962- 1 May 1962	YNP, Lake	log quarters attached to the old log ranger station (as above)	$21.50/pay period (continued Mammoth apt. rent only)
2 May 1962- 8 Oct 1962	YNP, Lake	three-bedroom Mission "66" house, near the maintenance yard	$21.50/pay period (continued Mammoth apt. rent only)
9 Oct 1962- 4 May 1963	YNP, Lamar Ranger Station	log and frame house (NPS # 106) with magnificent view of Lamar Valley	$19.15/pay period
5 May 1963- 19 Nov 1963	YNP, Mammoth	back to the upstairs apartment in the old Fort Yellowstone Quadraplex,	$18.75/pay period
20 Nov 1963- 10 Mar 1965	YNP, Mammoth, Mission "66" house near the elementary school	three-bedroom house (NPS #382), with a beautiful rock garden and spectacular views of Mt. Everts, Sepulcher, and others. This would have been our home for the rest of our NPS career if the choice had been ours	$27.50/pay period

11 Mar 1965- 1 May 1965	Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, Mather Training Center, an NPS Interpretive Training facility	I had a single room in an old stone dormitory on the former Storer College campus, converted to the NPS Mather Training Center in 1964. At the same time, Pat and the children lived with Pat's parents, in Granville, Ohio	?
2 May 1965- 19 May 1965	YNP, Mammoth - back to our rock garden house		$27.50/pay period
22 May 1965- 1 Jun 1967	Glacier National Park (GNP), Montana, West Glacier Headquarters	NPS House # 66, at the entrance road to the Community Center, a "Mission 66" three-bedroom house	$24/pay period $41 by Jan 1967
2 Jun 1967- 7 Sept 1967	GNP, St. Mary, 1913 Ranger Station, a historic building	log and frame house with nice views, seclusion, and lots of bats upstairs in the attic	$41/pay period rent continued for Hdqrs. house #66 in lieu of rent for the 1913 station
8 Sep 1967- 14 Sep 1967	GNP, West Glacier Headquarters, back to NPS House #66		$41/pay period
15 Sep 1967- 6 Sep 1968	Ft. Collins, Colorado, 80521, 3609 Linda Lane	a nice brick-frame three-bedroom house on the outskirts of town, about four miles from the Colorado State University campus, with a half-acre horse pasture	rent $500/mo??
8 Sep 1968- 17 Apr 1971	GNP, West Glacier Headquarters	NPS House #170, three-bedroom, at the base of the Belton Hills	$50/pay period estimate
18 Apr 1971- 3 Aug 1973	GNP, West Glacier Headquarters	NPS House #16, former Elmore house, four-bedroom, two story, with fireplace and rock chimney extending the height of the building plus four feet	$53.50/pay period

4 Aug 1973- Sep 1973	West Glacier, Montana, 0.75 miles west of town	one-room basement "cabin," 24 ft by 24 ft	ours
Sep 1973-Jul 1992, only parts of some years after 1980	Missoula, Montana, 1612 Bel Air Place	four-bedroom, full basement, frame house, two blocks from fairgrounds and three blocks from malfunction junction	purchased for $21,000 mortgage
Jun 1981- 7 Jun 1984	GNP, West Glacier Headquarters	NPS House #10, old house near the maintenance area and near the bank of the Middle Fork of the Flathead River	?
8 Jun 1984- 4 Jul 1991	GNP, West Glacier Headquarters	NPS House #1, old two-story, two-bedroom home, in the early days of the Park it was assigned to the Assistant Superintendent	$96.20/pay period
5 Jul 1991-present	West Glacier, Montana, 1 mile west of town	three-bedroom frame home on the edge of the bank above Middle Fork of the Flathead River	purchased for $80,000 from Diane Devine (Edgar niece)

CABIN DESIGN

Pat at working on plans for completing our West Glacier cabin, March 1987.

Lanny Stubson and Bradley Chase completed two stories above our basement cabin in 1995

FINAL HOUSE AT WEST GLACIER

Former GNP Chief Engineer Max Edgar and wife Carol (longtime friends) built a retirement house in 1971. It was one mile west of West Glacier, one hundred feet higher than the nearby Middle Fork of the Flathead River. By the late 1980s, Carol was in a care facility with Alzheimer's Disease. Max died on 4 March 1990.

The Edgars' niece, Diane Devine, inherited their house. Pat and I thought that it might be a good retirement house for us, so we approached Diane. We agreed on a purchase price of $80,000 and moved in on 5 July 1991. Prior to our moving, Pat wanted some remodeling done, especially in the livingroom. Work was done by Lanny Stubson and Bradley Chase.

Our River House, February 2018, built by Max Edgar in 1971.
(150 Edgar Lane, West Glacier)

Part 5: Pat's Community Service: the Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee

Pat was active in West Glacier area land-use planning projects beginning in 1976. At that time, we lived in Missoula most of the year, with summers at West Glacier. Pat's initial involvement in community planning efforts began when the Flathead County Commissioners were under pressure to make county zoning less restrictive for West Glacier. Our friend, Max Edgar (retired Glacier Park Chief Engineer), was Chairman of an informal, West Glacier land-planning group. Max was upset by Walt Whirry's self-serving zoning petition to the Commissioners. Whirry was interested only in dividing lots and putting as many houses on it as possible.

The West Glacier Golf Course and adjacent properties had been purchased by Walt Whirry in 1968. He sold the Golf Course in 1974, but retained numerous adjacent properties and strong influence on Golf Course management. In 1976, Whirry wanted to change county zoning on the West Glacier Golf Course and his adjacent properties. His proposed zoning would have been very favorable to developers. Most of the community could see this would be a personal benefit at the cost of the sense of community. At that point, Pat was active in West Glacier community meetings, where zoning was the primary topic. The greater community came together by getting informed about land use planning. Ultimately, community activists (including Pat) convinced the Flathead County Commissioners to reject Whirry's "zoning" scheme and land use in the area took a much more thoughtful and lower impact course, at least temporarily.

A March 1977 example of letters written to the Flathead County Commissioners, regarding zoning proposed by Glacier View Golf Course Corporation, follows:

"In the event that we are unable to attend the hearing set for this zoning proposal, we ask you consider the following written comments:

As property owners in the West Glacier area we believe the proposed zoning should be denied. The proposed zoning would allow the construction of facilities totally inappropriate on a flood plain, and inconsistent with the intent of the Wild River designation of the Middle Fork River.

The authorization of B-6 zoning on the current golf course and nearby area would permit construction of facilities, which would change totally the character of the community. Approval of this plan is tantamount to authorizing the necessity to dike the river, which will inevitably flood the golf course area. This will unnecessarily increase county taxes to change the Rivers' channel. The overall zoning plan for the entire area should be approved before proceeding piecemeal as presented by this proposal. What has happened to the plan being prepared by the Area wide Planning Board? This is an attempt to commercialize the area, which heretofore has been basically conservative.

In the face of logical land use planning that has been done elsewhere in the county, this zoning would represent a step into the archaic approach of rubber stamping any desire of wealthy land owners while forsaking the best interests of the community as a whole. We also must consider future generations, whose options for use of the land are dependent on your foresight, or lack thereof.

We respectfully urge the Commissioners to deny this proposed zoning and to approve only those zoning categories which are capable with flood plain use, wild rives proximity, and maintaining the low-density character of the area.

Sincerely yours,

B. Riley McClelland and Patricia T. McClelland "

Strong arm attempts by Whirry and his collaborators to "develop" the Golf Course were not effective. The County Commissioners ruled against the Whirry zoning plan. The Golf Course owners immediately submitted a plan to build Condos on the Golf Course (the whole Golf Course area actually is a Middle Fork flood plain).

Pat continued to advocate for smart land use planning by emphasizing the need for an overall zoning plan approval for the entire area before proceeding in a piecemeal manner as represented by the Golf Course development proposal. The letters urged the commissioners to deny this proposed zoning and to approve only those zoning categories compatible with floodplain use, Wild River proximity, and maintenance of the low-density, high-quality character of the area. In this early involvement, Pat helped bring caution to the Planning Board and the proposal was, at least temporarily, tabled. The development was eventually successful, but it received much more scrutiny.

In the 1980s, Pat worked with other community members to urge the County Commissioners to adopt zoning and regulation for the communities along Highway 2, between Hungry Horse and Essex. The Flathead Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) began working with a group of businesspeople in the Hungry Horse to West Glacier area interested in economic and community development planning for the Canyon. The project gained a greater sense of urgency when the County Commissioners directed the Flathead Regional Development Office (FRDO), the county planning agency, to begin preparing a countywide zoning plan.

When Pat's Masters Degree was completed, in 1992, she began to work with other community members (e.g., Bill and Inga Myers, Terry and Dennis Divoky, Ann and Dan Fagre, Mary Smith, Gail Pauley, Monica Youngster, Eleanor Bell, Sharon Bengtson) to establish a zoning plan that would retain what remained of the rustic and rural character that had been nurtured by the Lundgren family.

The county commissioners engaged David Greer (an experienced planner) to develop a plan for their consideration. Community members worked with Greer to create a plan for zoning regulation for the communities along Highway 2, between Hungry Horse and Essex. The plan proposed three "zones." The Lower Canyon (Hungry Horse, Martin City, and Coram); the Middle Canyon (West Glacier); and the Upper Canyon (Essex and vicinity). Community votes rejected the Lower Canyon involvement. The Middle and Upper Canyon Plan were supported by voters in those areas.

Pat was one of the first members of the Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee (MCLUAC) (appointed by the Flathead County Commissioners) and served from 1995-2005. She was Chair of the Committee during hearings for the Detoni zoning change proposal (2004) and the Spoklie Gravel Pit expansion proposal (2005), two very controversial issues. Ultimately, the county turned down the Detoni proposal. Later, the Commissioners sided with MCLUAC and denied the Spoklie expansion. Pat's letter follows:

To: Flathead County Commissioners Watne, Brenneman, and Hall
Re: Potential effects on wildlife of the Middle Canyon Area from operation of the Spoklie/Hoover gravel pit

"On 18 January 2006, I met with Jim Williams, Wildlife Manager, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, at the Kalispell office, to follow up a letter from Karin Connelly to Jeff Harris of Flathead County Planning and Zoning. The letter requested Planning and Zoning Office consultation with FWP personnel on impacts on wildlife from operation and potential expansion of the Spoklie gravel pit in the Middle Canyon Land Use Area. Reported input from FWP had been limited to the possible impact of horse manure piles attracting bears. (Tim Manley and Eric Wenum had visited the gravel pit.)

Jim reviewed the potential impacts with me. Jim felt the wildlife use maps in the Canyon Plan were still relevant. He provided an Incident Map for grizzly and black bears and mountain lions for the period 1996-1999 (attached). The map included the Middle Canyon Land Use Area and showed that grizzlies were using and moving thru the area between Glacier National Park and Flathead National Forest. He knew of grizzly deaths on BNSF tracks in the Lake Five Area which had been described to me previously by Rick Mace, FWP. The Canyon FWP wildlife position is vacant and detailed recent data not available. Tim Manley was on leave and not available for comment.

I told Jim that some Middle Canyon residents have had fewer wildlife sightings during the past two years. We discussed the gravel pit operation. In his opinion noise from pit operation would have the most serious consequences affecting wildlife travel routes and other use of the Middle Canyon Area. Winter and spring through calving and fawning would be the worst time of year for gravel pit operation. During that period wildlife of the Canyon is dependent on low elevation habitat. I commented that noise does not stop at the Middle Fork River and that wildlife of the river corridor in Glacier National Park would also be affected.

Pat McClelland, MS "

Pat believed in the community process, stating in a letter to the County Commissioners (regarding the Neighborhood Plan idea) that,

"Implementation can enhance the well-being of the community and the quality of life that will be available to future generations as well as current residents."

The District Court eventually ruled that Spoklie's expansion would be allowed because it was covered by a "grandfather" clause in the regulations.

In her letters, Pat always included consideration of the rights and responsibilities of land owners. She presented issues without confrontation and chose to point out the opportunities for creatively and constructively addressing the area quality of life issues. One of Pat's admirable qualities was her diplomacy. She always looked for the good in people, knowing it was how to move forward on a discussion or a project. She never felt the need to be in the limelight.

An example of the many letters written to (or by) Pat over her years of community service appear in the following pages, in chronological order:

10/26/76

Hi Pat and Riley!

We thought we'd let you know there was a Planning Meeting about zoning the Golf course and Whirry's land. It got turned down. So they applied again for another meeting and specified more, what part they wanted commercial and residential. I think that was about 2 weeks ago by now. And the only two people speaking up was Mrs. Bell and Bill Myers. There were quite a few of the neighbors at the meeting. Some of them raised their ~~xxxxxx~~ opinion. But when it came to voting what to do, nobody in the Committee would commit themselves except Bill and Elenor. So there will be a meeting again in Kalispell, they haven't let us know yet when. But after the meeting the Commissioner told us that anybody that want to write in and say their opinion, can so they know where they stand more. He also told Bill they hate to approve it. Mrs. Bell later wrote in her resignation, she got discussed nobody speaking up. So that is too bad.

So, we thought maybe you wanted to know. They want the Golf Course commercial and also the five lots in front of us, and the rest of Whirry's land 30 acres or a little less, residential. Walt has already surveyed 8 big lots. Mr. Edgar thinks they look about 2 or 2½ acres each. And then these can be divided up in 4 or 5 ½ acre lots, as long as they have community well. It would really be a sad thing if he can do all this.

We thought, maybe you would be up one of these weekends, that's why we haven't written you before.

Enough talk about this, makes me to discussed! The eagles are starting to come back and the kids are getting a few salmon now and then. Suppose you heard on the radio a grizzly got shot in Hungry Horse. Well, a few days before that we watched him down by the bridge. He was licking the rocks where people put their fish, when they catch them. He was really a thin looking thing, looked starved. I felt so sorry for him.

We also had a few snowflakes this weekend. Well, Hope this letter reaches you, am kind of trying to hurry before everybody comes home for supper. So excuse the bad typing.

Hope you are all doing good!

Inga Meyers

P.S. This was in the paper about a month ago, did you see it. Dumb!

Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936
March 4, 1977

County Commissioners
Flathead County
Kalispell, MT

Re: Proposed zoning petitioned by Glacier View Golf Course Corporation and Walt Whirry.

Since we may be unable to attend the hearing set for this zoning proposal, we ask that you consider the following written comments. As property owners in the West Glacier area we believe the proposed zoning should be denied.

The proposed B-6 zoning would allow the construction of facilities totally inappropriate on a floodplain and would be inconsistent with the intent of the Wild River designation of the Middle Fork River. Public funds have already been used for protection of the floodplain development. It is not in the public interest to compound the problems of this area by increasing the the investment on the floodplain. Paragraph three of Glacier View Golf Course's information sheet on the proposed zoning infers that the zoning is necessary in order to continue the existing use. Actually, the B-6 zoning would open the door to the end of the existing use, as more and more land would be diverted to new "profit-making" ventures without further public review.

The area of the zoning proposal, excluding the golf course, has been developing as a residential area. It is within easy walking distance of the business facilities of West Glacier. Referring to the smaller block of B-6 zoning, you will note that it borders a "Y" intersection of two county roads. Two of these legs come into the "Y" with restricted visibility due to the contours of the land. It would be a very hazardous area if businesses attracting traffic were put into these relatively shallow lots. There is, however, a more significant reason for denying this zoning. To zone this block B-6 would be the very first step in a "strip" type of uncontrolled development that could litter the county roadside all the way to West Glacier. The time to stop "strip" business development is BEFORE IT STARTS.

The quality of the West Glacier community is exceptional when compared to other National Park Entrance towns. The existing facilities in West Glacier meet the needs of the residents and the park visitors so adequately at this time that investment in additional facilities would be at quite some risk, as is evidenced by the situation in hand of the Glacier View Golf Course. In the event that future park visitor and resident use should demonstrate the need for more facilities, they should be constructed with adequate planning for clustering of facilities, traffic flow, parking, and maintaining the scenic quality of the unique community that we now have. It should not be done on the floodplain.

continued on next page

What has happened to the plan being prepared by the Areawide Planning Board? The overall zoning plan for the entire area should be approved before proceeding in a piecemeal manner as represented by this proposal. In the face of logical land use planning that has been done elsewhere in the country, this zoning would represent a step into the archaic approach of rubberstamping desires of influential landowners while forsaking the best interests of the community as a whole - and future generations, whose options for quality use of the land are dependent on your foresight, or lack thereof.

We respectfully urge the commissioners to deny this proposed zoning and to approve only those zoning categories which are compatable with floodplain use, Wild River proximity, and maintenance of the low density, high quality character of the area.

Sincerely yours,

Patricia T. McClelland

Patricia T. McClelland

B. Riley McClelland

B. Riley McClelland

Copies to: Areawide Planning Board
E. Lundgren
W. Colony
Mrs. J. Bell
B. Myers
M. Edgar

March 17, 1977
Edgar
Box 416
West Glacier, MT

59936

Dear Riley & Pat-

KOFI on their noon news cast stated the Zoning Board had indefinitely tabled the West Glacier zoning petition, based on local opposition, wild river classification, flood plain problems, river pollution plus the fact that the primary purpose of the petition was for the private gain of a few individuals. So, the door is still wide open for any kind of development.

Pleased to see you at the meeting, Pat. I am sure your excellent letter to the Commissioners was a major assist to their arriving at favorable, to us, decision.

Much love,
Max

WEST GLACIER-LAKE FIVE AREA PLANNING UNIT
WEST GLACIER, MT59936

December 14, 1978

Mr. James E. Mohn, Current Planner
Flathead County APO
Flathead County Court House East
723 5th Avenue East
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Mr. Mohn:

Re: Glacier View Fairway Estates

In accordance with the request made in your letter of December 4, 1978 to Mr. Everett Lundgren an open meeting of the West Glacier-Lake Five Area Planning Unit was held on December 13, 1978 and the referenced subdivision was reviewed.

Present at the meeting were twenty-two local residents, Messrs. Paris and Marquardt representing the owners and you representing the Flathead County APo.

After your introduction and description of the proposed subdivision, the meeting was turned over to Mr. Marquardt to answer questions and discuss comments from the floor.

The following is a summary of the major points covered in the meeting:

POSITIVE

1. The row house party wall design combines economies in construction costs for buildings, roads, and utilities with minimal use of land area.

2. Owner anticipates primary use will be mostly summer occupancy by retired or semi-retired families. There will be an increased tax base and little or no impact on local schools.

3. County road maintenance costs will be much less than for an equivalent number of sites occupying the whole golf course.

4. Design provides off-road parking for four cars per lot.

5. The present 18-hole golf course will be preserved as permanent open space under scenic easements being negotiated with U.S. Forest Service.

6. The continued inflow of people to this region requires development of adequate living space.

7. Utilities inside the subdivision will be underground.

NEGATIVE

1. The nearly quarter-mile length of the row houses with only five small breaks will create a major intrusion on the principal scenic view of abutting existing properties. Although partially screened by the gravel bluff to the south, the two-story development will have the appearance and esthetic appeal of a large motel installation.

2. That portion of the subdivision which lies in the flood fringe area (not officially established) will require fill in the low spots. Such fill could block drainage from existing subdivisions.

3. A development of this size could reduce critical habitat for endangered species such as the bald eagle and the grizzly bear.

4. Increased vehicular traffic may require pedestrian walks and bike ways. along the road to West Glacier.

5. The relatively large structures involved will require fire protection. Proposed potable water would not be adequate for firefighting and would require drafting from a golf course water hazard. Distance of water hazard from development was not stated.

6. The location of buildings at right angles to wind from north storms will create heavy drifting on the county road and block access of present winter residents located downriver from the subdivision.

7. Construction of the development will tend to promote the resort community concept versus rural setting preferred by the local residents.

8. Individual letters from Messrs. Kalbfleish and Parker were received and read at the meeting, which stated that creation of the subdivision would destroy the natural beauty of the area.

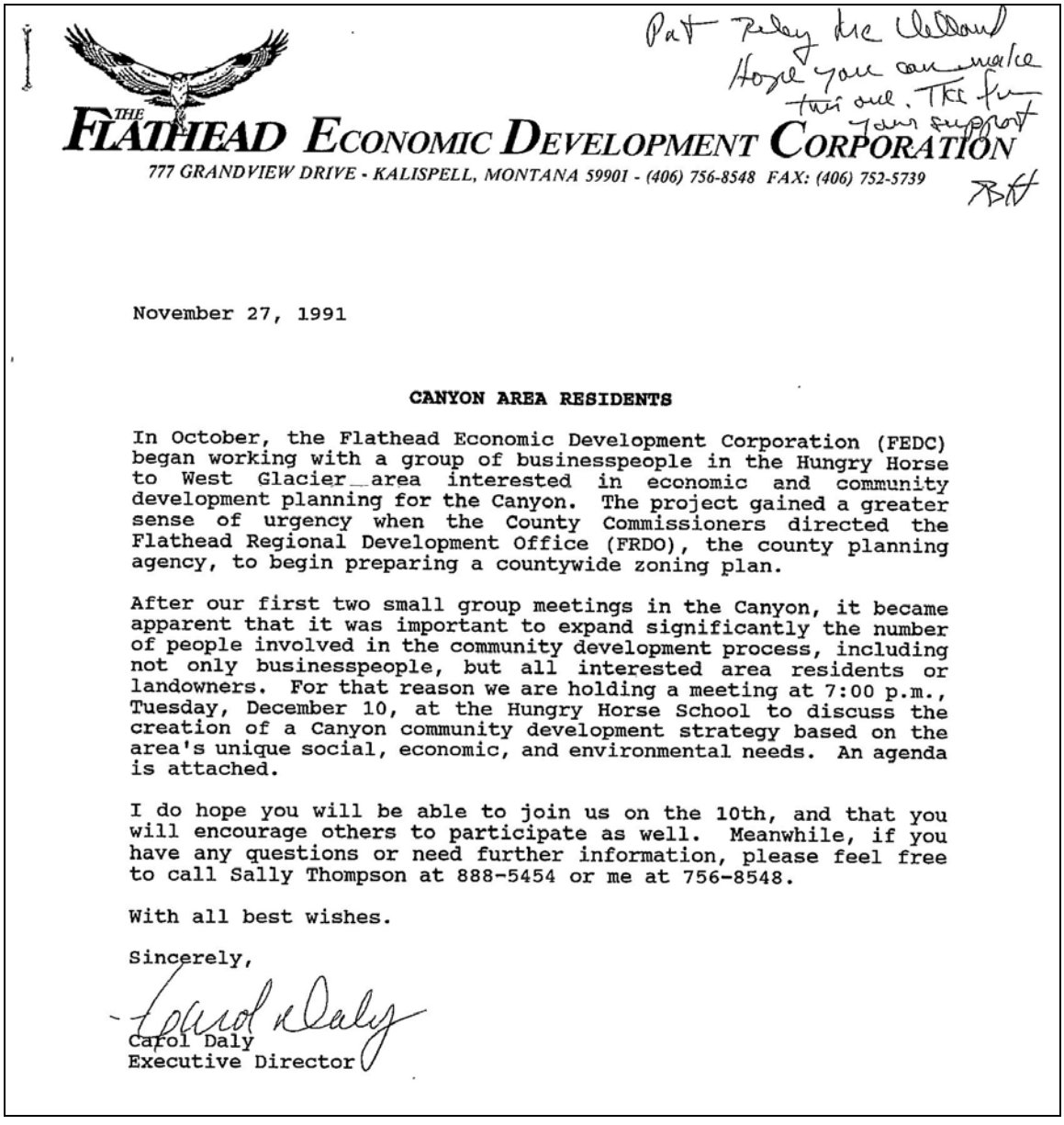
It is hoped the above comments will assist you in the final processing of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Max E. Edgar, Chairman

The Commissioners approved this travesty, and that's what we have today - extensive housing development on the flood plain.

In the early 1990's, some Canyon activists tried to initiate community zoning for Canyon communities (Hungry Horse to Essex), the **Canyon Citizen Initiated Zoning Group**. Those efforts eventually succeeded.



Pat Riley Eric Weldon
Hope you can make
this one. The fu
Your support

THE FLATHEAD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

777 GRANDVIEW DRIVE - KALISPELL, MONTANA 59901 - (406) 756-8548 FAX: (406) 752-5739

November 27, 1991

CANYON AREA RESIDENTS

In October, the Flathead Economic Development Corporation (FEDC) began working with a group of businesspeople in the Hungry Horse to West Glacier area interested in economic and community development planning for the Canyon. The project gained a greater sense of urgency when the County Commissioners directed the Flathead Regional Development Office (FRDO), the county planning agency, to begin preparing a countywide zoning plan.

After our first two small group meetings in the Canyon, it became apparent that it was important to expand significantly the number of people involved in the community development process, including not only businesspeople, but all interested area residents or landowners. For that reason we are holding a meeting at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 10, at the Hungry Horse School to discuss the creation of a Canyon community development strategy based on the area's unique social, economic, and environmental needs. An agenda is attached.

I do hope you will be able to join us on the 10th, and that you will encourage others to participate as well. Meanwhile, if you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to call Sally Thompson at 888-5454 or me at 756-8548.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely,

Carol Daly
Executive Director

17 February 1992

Stephen Herbaly
Flathead County Planning Office
723 5th Avenue
Kalispell, Montana 59901

Dear Steve:

We do not know how close you are to finalizing the interim zoning regulations for Flathead County, but we are writing to ask whether the interim guidelines can in any way address the problems of snowmobile use and commercial helicopter airfields in the West Glacier area.

The airfields, which are located at the Highland Motel and the Great Northern Raft Company properties, have evolved without any opportunity for public input. They now produce more takeoffs and landings during most summer days than occur during comparable times at the Kalispell International Airport. These heliports conflict with the goals of the area wide-plan and are leading to the destruction of peace and quiet for the entire West Glacier Community. Commercial snowmobile use at West Glacier has the same potential for negative impact at West Glacier, but is not yet as pervasive.

Are there any opportunities for creatively and constructively addressing these quality of life issues in the interim zoning regulations?

Sincerely,

Riley and Pat McClelland

15 February 1993
Box 366
West Glacier, MT

59935 Hungry Horse Ranger District
Box 190340
Hungry Horse, MT 59919

This letter addresses the "Maintenance Site" project along Highway 2 at Nyack (Middle Fork of the Flathead River), described in your February 1993 Small Projects Scoping Statement.

The proposed relocation site, 2 miles east of the current site, raises many concerns. It would create considerably more resource impact than exists at the current site. Problems with creek overflow at the current site can be mitigated by careful work based on consultation with an aquatic ecologist. This creek already is highly modified.

Although the proposed relocation site is in a previously disturbed location, abandonment of this site years ago benefitted wildlife. Nearby Skiumah and Cascade Creeks are major grizzly bear foraging areas and travel routes between the Great Bear Wilderness and Glacier National Park.

Probably the worst aspect of the proposed relocation would be the expansion of development and disturbance to an area of Nyack Flats currently receiving relatively little human use. The south end of Nyack Flats, west of Highway 2, currently is "undeveloped" and heavily used by bears and ungulates, especially in the spring. The north end, where the maintenance site currently is located, already is extensively "developed," subject to continuous human activity, and far less available to wildlife. The current site cannot be substantially reclaimed because it sits within an area occupied by other buildings and consistent human use. Moving to the proposed site would further expand the area covered by facility development in Nyack Flats, adding to the extensive and cumulative impact in this sensitive area.

We oppose this relocation also because noise from routine maintenance activities would severely diminish the quality of hiking experiences on the Skiumah trail. This impact is minor at the present location.

How does this piecemeal approach to use of the Nyack Flats fit into any ecosystem management plan for this area of the Middle Fork? This relocation would simply expand the area that is unusable to large mammals.

In summary, we believe moving highway maintenance activities to the proposed relocation site would be detrimental to wildlife and recreationists and thereby inconsistent with your resource management objectives.

Sincerely,

Riley and Pat McClelland

24 August 1994
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead County Commissioners
800 South Main
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Commissioners:

We write to commend you on the adoption of the Canyon Plan Policy Statement and Goals; this area includes West Glacier, where we own land and reside. Your adoption of these goals signifies your acceptance of responsibility for retaining community quality standards for future generations as well as people currently living in the area.

You will no doubt receive criticism from the anti-government groups, largely organized by outside forces with a vested interest in unrestricted development. These forces are stridently vocal about their personal rights, with little respect for the rights of others, particularly generations that will follow us. Our children will suffer if we are selfish and think only of short-term financial gain.

The next step will be the most difficult - adopting land use standards and regulations for the plan area. Regulations must be stringent if the plan's goals are to be met. Some landowners, those few who reject any responsibility and focus only on their "right" to do as they please, will not be happy with restrictions. You can not allow those attitudes to determine your final decision on Canyon Plan details. It would be unfair to the majority.

This summer we have seen rapidly accelerating destruction of sensitive wildlife habitat and community values in the West Glacier area. The community goals which you adopted will be reached - at least approached - only by your adoption of strong restrictions that are the means to achieving the goals. We have spent many hours and donated personal funds to the Canyon planning process. It has been an opportunity for everyone to be heard. We hope you will not let us down.

Sincerely,

Riley and Pat McClelland

29 June 1994
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

David Greer
Planner
Box 7607
Kalispell, MT 59904

Dear Dave:

In general, we support the draft regulations for the Canyon area. We strongly believe that regulations must be legally binding; if they are not, the whole planning effort will have been fruitless. Some people will argue that regulations should be voluntary. Voluntary constraints work when the community is composed of sensitive people (the precedent set by the Lundgrens). Voluntary constraints fail miserably when the sole objective of a developer is maximizing profit. The later is currently being amply demonstrated by the helicopter companies at West Glacier. Community interests have been totally sacrificed. If the stated purposes of the Canyon Area Land Regulatory System are to be achieved, regulations must be legally enforceable.

Following are several specific issues of concern:

(1) On page 14, "tourist equipment rentals" is listed as an approved activity for the Middle Canyon Area. This general approval may be satisfactory for the Lower Canyon Area, but it is not for the MCA. MCA goals can be met only by prohibiting the rental or commercial use of snowmobiles, jet skis, and other motorized recreational equipment.

(2) Two commercial helicopter airfields and associated support buildings have now been imposed upon the West Glacier community; the community had no opportunity to protect its interest in maintaining some semblance of peace and quiet. Regulations should state explicitly that operation of helicopters is inconsistent with the purposes stated in the Canyon Plan. The plan should state that this adverse use should be removed from the Canyon Area. Helicopter operations belong at the legitimately designated airport in Kalispell.

(3) Page 9, section 2, lists "passive recreational uses. This term should be defined.

(4) The indiscriminate use of firearms currently occurring within the MCA is inconsistent with the stated purposes of the regulatory system. A regulation should be added that prohibits firearm discharge within a half mile of a residence other than your own.

Sincerely,

Riley and Pat McClelland

4 October 1994
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead County Commissioners Hedstrom,
Gipe, and Stratton
800 South Main
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Commissioners:

We believe that the Flathead County Planning Board erred in approving the Strawberry Mountain subdivision, 1 mile west of West Glacier. The Board made its decision contrary to the recommendation of the Planning Office and based at least partly on erroneous information concerning the West Glacier Post Office. Neither real estate developer Thompson nor the West Glacier Postmaster has the prerogative to unilaterally decide that the West Glacier Post Office will move to the Strawberry Mountain subdivision. Obviously, such a move (if it had actually been decided) could be used to support Thompson's self-serving contention that he is simply expanding West Glacier westward. However, a decision to relocate a post office requires public participation that has not even been initiated. From a community standpoint, moving the post office a mile out of town would destroy the coherence of West Glacier; there will be strong opposition to any such proposal. Therefore, the Board was misled by the post office sham.

The Daily Inter Lake (16 September 1994) was correct in describing the subdivision as a "new Canyon town." Such a town is totally inconsistent with the Canyon Plan goals, which you adopted. If you are tempted to believe the developer's claim that the current Strawberry Mountain businesses (including a helicopter airport and a real estate office with an intrusive and distractive night-lighted sign) "add a nice touch to the area" you may want to take another look. The large clearcut is unscreened and already a blight on the community.

Approval of the Strawberry Mountain development would reward the developer's misleading testimony about the post office location, his demonstrated disregard for proper screening, and would violate the goals of the Canyon Plan. We urge you to faithfully follow the Canyon Plan - that is the only hope for planned growth rather than the chaos we now experience.

Respectfully,

Riley and Pat McClelland

24 November 1994
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead County Commissioners Hedstrom,
Gipe, and Stratton
800 South Main
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Commissioners:

My husband and I have lived in the West Glacier area for most of the past 30 years. I currently own two properties, one with the family home, at West Glacier. I want you to know how much I appreciate your decision to adopt the regulatory system for the Canyon Plan. No system of regulations can perfectly fit the standards each property owner would choose. I preferred much stronger regulation of commercial development and protection of wildlife habitat. Compromises were made to satisfy others and I support the regulatory system that you have adopted.

Much of the quality that brought us to the Canyon area has been lost in the last several years. Two commercial helicopter airports in the area have destroyed the peace and quiet in the community for at least 6 months of each year. That is a tragedy. However, other values do remain and your decision will help to retain those values to at least some degree.

You are to be commended for your courage in making this decision in the face of threatening and rude opposition. Your decision represents the majority of the community and certainly represents a concern for what we will leave for future generations.

Thanks and respect,

Pat McClelland

3 February 1995
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead Regional Development Office
723 Fifth Avenue East
Room 414
Kalispell, MT 59901

Subject: Canyon Citizen Review Panel

My name is Patricia T. McClelland. I wish to be considered for a position on the citizen advisory panel for the Middle Canyon Region. I am 59 years old; my husband and I have resided in the West Glacier area for the better part of 30 years, having moved here in 1965. I have owned property at West Glacier for more than 20 years and my permanent home is currently at West Glacier.

I participated in the Canyon Planning Process from its inception. I support the Plan goals and the Land Use Regulations as adopted by the Flathead County Commissioners. I am willing to serve on the Middle Canyon Panel because I believe that the Plan and the Regulations are appropriate and necessary. Implementation can enhance the well being of the community and the quality of life that will be available to future generations as well as current residents.

If appointed to this position I would serve with due respect for property rights and would strive to work with other panel members to produce objective and fair recommendations that are consistent with the Canyon Plan and its Land Use Regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia McClelland

FLATHEAD COUNTY

CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE

KALISPELL, MONTANA

Date March 1, 1995

To: Patricia McClelland
P.O. Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Dear Member:

This is to advise you that the Board of County Commissioners has this date appointed you to the following Board: MIDDLE CANYON CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE .

Tom Jentz from the Planning Office will be contacting you in the next two weeks to set up an organizational meeting. Your term of office will be determined at that meeting.

Kindly sign the attached Notice of Appointment before a Notary Public and return to the CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE within 30 days.

FAILURE TO FILE THIS NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT WITH THE CLERK & RECORDER'S OFFICE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE ABOVE APPOINTMENT DATE MAY RESULT IN NULLIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT.

Very truly yours,

Susan W. Haverfield

Susan W. Haverfield
Clerk & Recorder

15 June 1996
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead County Commissioners Stratton,
Gipe, and Watne
800 South Main
Kalispell, MT 59901

Dear Commissioners:

We wish to express our support for the 1994 Master Plan, even though it did not receive a majority of the votes in the recent election.

In lieu of the 1994 Updated Plan, if you choose to reject it on the basis of the vote, retention of the 1987 Plan is imperative. We commend Commissioners Stratton and Gipe for their votes to continue that plan. We believe that Commissioner Watne's vote to discard even the 1987 Plan is ill advised and without logic. Without any Plan that establishes guidelines and constraints, Flathead County's ultimate fate will be determined only by land developers and people without concern for their neighbors. We urge Commissioner Watne to recognize that democracy requires responsibility as well as rights; that's the balance the Master Plan Update tried to achieve. Without any plan, we (the current older generation) may "get" ours, but there will be little of quality left for our children and grandchildren. The job of the Commissioners is to look beyond self interest and represent the future as well as the present. To accomplish that, Flathead County needs a Master Plan.

Respectfully,

Riley and Pat McClelland

25 November 1996
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead Regional Development Office
723 Fifth Avenue East
Room 414
Kalispell, MT 59901

Subject: Canyon Citizen Review Panel

My name is Patricia T. McClelland. I wish to be considered for reappointment to a position on the citizen advisory panel for the Middle Canyon Region. I have served on the advisory panel for the past two years and my permanent home is still at West Glacier.

I participated in the Canyon Planning Process from its inception and I continue to support the Plan goals and the Land Use Regulations as adopted by the Flathead County Commissioners. I am willing to serve on the Middle Canyon Panel because I believe that the Plan and the Regulations are appropriate and necessary. Implementation can enhance the well-being of the community and the quality of life that will be available to future generations as well as current residents.

If reappointed to this position I will serve with due respect for property rights and would strive to work with other panel members to produce objective and fair recommendations that are consistent with the Canyon Plan and its Land Use Regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia McClelland

29 November 1999
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Flathead Regional Development Office
723 Fifth Avenue East
Room 414
Kalispell, MT 59901

Subject: Canyon Citizen Review Panel

My name is Patricia T. McClelland. I wish to be considered for reappointment to a position on the citizen advisory panel for the Middle Canyon Region. My permanent home is still at West Glacier.

I participated in the Canyon Planning Process from its inception and I continue to support the Plan goals and the Land Use Regulations as adopted by the Flathead County Commissioners. I am willing to serve on the Middle Canyon Panel because I believe that the Plan and the Regulations are appropriate and necessary. Implementation can enhance the well-being of the community and the quality of life that will be available to future generations as well as current residents.

If reappointed to this position I will serve with due respect for property rights and would strive to work with other panel members to produce objective and fair recommendations that are consistent with the Canyon Plan and its Land Use Regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia McClelland

27 May 2005
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Commissioner Gary Hall
Commissioners Office
800 S. Main St.
Kalispell MT 59901

When I asked for a definition of "reside"

Commissioner Hall:

Thank you for your time on Thursday, May 19, 2005. You asked me for information regarding the work load of the Middle Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System Citizen Review Panel (also known as the "Middle Canyon Advisory Committee"). From 2000 through 2004 the Citizen Review Panel considered 17 applications for recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Office. We also were contacted about numerous plan violations and perceived violations which were investigated and reported to the Planning and Zoning Office. Many of those reports involved business signs along Highway 2.

During 2005, between January 1 and May 18, I made 75 phone calls in response to 27 incoming calls. I also received several e-mails regarding the CALURS plan.

On May 19, in my comments to you regarding the winter business closures in the Middle Canyon Area, I neglected to point out that Glacier Raft Co. (STW Properties) has remained open during most winter months of the past few winters. Their application for expansion that would facilitate future winter use recently came before the Commission with a positive recommendation from the Citizen Review Panel.

Respectfully yours,

Pat McClelland, Chairman

Pat had a reputation of running a tight meeting. She always was well-prepared and fair.

MAY 31, 2005 MINUTES
MIDDLE CANYON AREA LAND USE REGULATORY SYSTEM
NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Chairman of the Citizen Review Panel of CALURS Pat McClelland opened the meeting at 7:08 PM. Fellow panel member Reno Baldwin was present. Since the third panel member, Mary Smith, couldn't attend, Pat asked Gail Jokerst to act as substitute secretary and take minutes. Approximately thirty-six people attended the meeting, which was held in Glacier National Park's Community Building.

Pat explained that Flathead County needs to have a growth policy from us to review if we want our Neighborhood Plan to be included in the county's growth policy. The group was told that everyone's views are important to the growth-plan process and all were encouraged to participate in the evening's discussion. Tonight is to be the first in a series of meetings so the Middle Canyon Area can draft an updated Middle Canyon Plan consistent with the county's growth policy.

Pat read a letter from Johna Morrison, Interim Director of the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office. Johna wrote:

"One of the criteria for incorporating your neighborhood plan, is that it is compliant with the criteria for a growth policy. I am writing to you to inform you that your neighborhood group must bring your plan into compliance by October 1, 2006 or it will not be incorporated into the growth policy."

Pat shared some background information on the growth policy. To proceed with updating our neighborhood plan, Pat noted the community needs to follow these four steps over time:

1. Gather background information to update the 1994 Canyon Plan for the Middle Canyon
2. Determine goals and objectives
3. Determine implementation tools
4. Schedule periodic evaluation

Since we're required to produce a land-use map of the Middle Canyon district for the county, Reno showed the latest area map and talked about recording land-use data upon it. He also distributed a key to county land-use codes. Reno has arranged for an aerial map of the district. No specific action was taken about the mapping after his presentation. It will be an on-going project.

When the mapping and information database is updated, the community can review its goals and objectives for the plan. Pat expects it to take three public meetings to accomplish step one and the same number for step two. Tonight's meeting was mostly devoted to how to tackle step one and go about gathering and updating data. Pat said we need to examine population and business trends—among other criteria—in this area and determine if our growth is increasing, decreasing, or stabilizing.

Gary Kauffman said he thought we already had a county growth plan and wondered what happened to it. Pat explained that the 1987 Master Plan doesn't fill current legislative requirements to comply with a statewide effort to put updated growth plans in place. The state has mandated new requirements and objectives in handling growth. We must update

Page 1, Jokerst minutes from MCLUAC meeting, 31 May 2005

our portion of the 1987 Master Plan to be in compliance. When done, we bring our amended portion of the plan to the County Planning Board and Commissioners.

Eleanor Bell asked what we specifically need to do first and was told: update our data. John Gladder asked if the County Commissioners could veto the plan and was told, yes. They have the final say unless it ends up in court. Reno reminded the group that if we don't determine our own destiny, someone else will do it for us. So we need to come together with a plan.

Terry Divoky said Sharon Demeester had provided an electronic version of the Canyon Plan and CALURS. Anyone wanting e-mail copies should send Terry an e-mail request at: TDDivoky@centurytel.net. She also commented that since this is an unfunded group, if anyone cares to donate $1 (or more) to help defray costs for reproducing the plans or for any part of the committee work to be done, she'll bring a bucket to the next meeting.

Pat suggested the group form an ad hoc committee to start filling in the data gap using sources such as the current population census and business license information to update the Middle Canyon Plan. Beth Blacker mentioned some survey information should exist because of the research done around the time of the 2003 wildland fires. County Planning and Zoning staff can point us to additional sources.

Sharon Bengtson asked if Pat and Reno were the ad hoc committee and was told, no. Sharon then said it was important to get a show of hands indicating interest in forming such a committee. She noted that this committee would have to be community-led and represent many people.

Sharon made a MOTION, which was SECONDED and CARRIED by a voice vote. It reads: "I move that people who are interested in being on the ad hoc committee raise their hands now." Discussion among the attendees that occurred before the vote covered the following points and questions:

- What will be involved time-wise? (depends on the task)
- Are we volunteering just to collect data for the first step or does volunteering mean we're involved in the entire revision process? (This would be a committee in flux. People would have the option of serving as long as they wanted through the various steps. New committee members can come aboard anytime. The more people who sign up the better off everyone is because there's a division of labor and diversity of input.)
- What's the biggest problem in updating the plan? (Implementing it.)
- People asked about the best way to publicly communicate the meeting schedule. Notices at the post office and in the *Hungry Horse News* and *Daily Inter Lake* were agreed on with two-week's advance notice. Chris Coughlin also suggested starting an e-mail notification list and asked Terry to put that together from the addresses she receives asking for copies of the plans.
- What constitutes approval of the updated plan? (We're still awaiting direction from the office of planning and zoning.)
- Are there any prototypes for these plans that we can follow so we don't do unnecessary/wrong work on this and waste time and effort? (We're already the prototype with what we put together in 1994.)
- When we make changes, Ann Fagre said to use a strike through on the original version and insert the new text so it's clear to read.. The Commissioners want to compare the

original wording with the updates. We're submitting a draft copy not a finished updated copy to them.

- Does the map include Nyack? (no)

After the voice vote, a show of hands was counted and 26 people volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee. A clipboard was passed around to get their names and phone numbers. It was determined that two people would need to head up the ad hoc committee. Terry Divoky and Gary Kauffman volunteered.

Reno noted that summer is a hectic time for many local businesses and suggested postponing the research until later in the year. Some attendees agreed. Pat said County Planning and Zoning staff have advised us to start the process as soon as possible because it'll take awhile to compile the data. Many of the attendees agreed with that. Pat suggested the committee begin gathering the database updates over the next month so there's a sense of direction to take before the end of August.

Pat adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM and asked those who hadn't signed their name on the attendee list upon entering the meeting to do so before leaving.

Submitted by,

Gail Jokerst

P.O. Box 202
W. Glacier, MT 59936

Addendum to 31 May 2005 MCLUAC meeting:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The state of Montana has requested all counties to put in place a growth policy to determine how and where growth should occur in each county. This was done because all counties have a responsibility to provide mandated services such as road maintenance and law enforcement.

The state Legislature has set standards for information needed in each county's growth plan. These standards include the following areas:

- maps
- land uses
- transportation
- population
- housing needs
- economic conditions
- local services
- public facilities
- natural resources
- other characteristics unique to community
- projected trends for life of the growth policy (after data is accumulated)

We currently have a Middle Canyon Area Neighborhood Plan. This consists of the Canyon Plan plus the Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System (CALURS) which is an implementation document for the Canyon Plan. The Canyon Plan is a growth policy document adopted by Flathead County in May 1994. The Canyon Plan covers private lands from Bad Rock Canyon to the county line at Marias Pass and is divided into 3 regions: 1) Lower Canyon (Hungry Horse, Martin City, Coram); 2) Middle Canyon (West Glacier, Lake Five); and 3) Upper Canyon (developed areas east of West Glacier). The document includes the history of the Canyon as well as goals and objectives for growth and land use in this area.

We need to update the Middle Canyon Plan in the areas listed above. This means we must assemble a progressive picture of local change. We'll do this by gathering data covering the specified areas for the time period 1995 through 2004. After we have updated our data we'll also need to update the Middle Canyon Plan's goals and objectives to reflect the change we've recorded.

Flathead County has to complete its growth policy to turn into the state by October 6, 2006. Although we don't know now what deadline we're facing for getting our updated information to the county, we have been advised by the County Planning and Zoning Office to start work on amending our plan now. The purpose of the May 31, 2005 neighborhood meeting was to inform the community of our need to update the current Middle Canyon Plan. We also had to decide on a way to proceed to collect this information.

7 November 2005

To: My Neighbors

Re: Vacancy on Advisory Committee

Following is an announcement that appeared in the Daily Inter Lake, October 28, 2005:

"County seeks applicants for boards, committees. ...Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee - One position with a three-year term. Applicants must be (sic) live in the Middle Canyon Land Use Area, which includes Coram (sic), Lake Five and West Glacier."

A corrected version to appear soon in the Inter Lake should read: "...Applicants must be a resident of the Middle Canyon Land Use Area, which includes Lake Five and West Glacier."

Job Description: (Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System, page 4, Adopted December 29, 1994, Flathead County, Montana).

"2.7 CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL [Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee] ([ ] indicate minor editing to update document).

There is hereby created a citizen review panel for...the Middle...Land Use Region of the Canyon. The membership of ... [the] citizen review panel shall consist of 3 members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners for 3 staggered year terms. Appointees must reside within the land use region of jurisdiction. Appointment of the initial citizen review panel, if other than the first of the year, shall include an appointment that expires in January of the first partial year so as to provide a staggered membership schedule. The members shall serve without compensation. Rules of Procedure shall be adopted by the Panel for establishing methods and procedures for meeting and making appropriate recommendations to [Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office] or other designated bodies. The Panel is encouraged to solicit input from the larger community, as well as from adjoining landowners, when reviewing a proposed land use action.

The role of the Citizen Review Panel is to review and recommend actions on all [Middle] Canyon-related applications from within the associated Region pending in the [Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office] (FCPZO). The recommendations of the Panel shall be included in FCPZO reports submitted to the Planning Board or Board of Adjustment, and/or to the County Commissioners (in situations involving minor subdivisions). Recommendations by the citizen review panels are advisory only. FCPZO shall provide the Citizen Review Panel with the application materials at least 2 weeks before the FCPZO staff reports on the pending applications are forwarded to the appropriate reviewing authority. Recommendations from the Panel to FCPZO shall be received in writing by FCPZO by a date specified in the initial

transmittals. Late or no response to the FCPZO request for comments shall be deemed as "no comment" from the Panel."

APPLICANTS NEEDED! Letters of application should be sent to Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office by 18 November. Any letters of recommendation should be addressed to the Commissioners with copy to FCPZO George Smith.

Here is a brief history of the Advisory Committee. The original three members of the Committee were appointed in December, 1994: Ann Fagre - 3 years, Mary Smith - 2 years, and Pat McClelland - 1 year. In subsequent years all three individuals reapplied at the end of their terms and were reappointed until 2004; in 2004 Reno Baldwin was selected by the County Commissioners, from among the applicants, replacing Ann Fagre.

The Committee organized and named the person in their 3rd year as chairman, and the person in their 2nd year served as secretary. In practice, we worked together to maintain a quorum of 2 members available at all times and assisted each other with our responsibilities. Issue meetings were scheduled for the last Tuesday of the month prior to Planning Board and/or Board of Adjustment meetings the following week. Issue meetings were governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

The Committee has also been able to serve the community informally. Committee members act as ombudsmen between the people of the neighborhood and FCPZO, helping to find answers to questions and solutions to problems. They assist neighbors trying to reach negotiated settlement of minor issues with FCPZO. They act as a conduit to FCPZO for perceived zoning violations. They keep track of neighborhood planning issues that may affect seasonal residents who are absent.

The Advisory Committee is an arm of and an advocate for the Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System (CALURS). This document will be revised to address only the Middle Canyon (the Upper Canyon Region currently is inactive). As approved in 1994, CALURS became a regulatory document for Flathead County. We are lucky to have the structure it provides to guide us through local planning and zoning issues.

As a member of your Advisory Committee for the past 10 years, I thank the citizens of our neighborhood for their assistance and support. I will not apply for another 3-year term. I do plan to remain active in planning and zoning issues in the Middle Canyon.

Sincerely,

Pat McClelland

Draft Agenda
Middle Canyon Land Use Area Advisory Committee
29 November 2005

Please sign in even if you do not expect to speak.

Meeting to order - 1900

Welcome: We appreciate your attendance, coming over snowy roads and taking the time during this busy holiday season.

This neighborhood meeting is held under the authority of the Middle Canyon Area Land Use Regulatory System and the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Office.

As members of your Advisory Committee, I am Pat McClelland, and this is Reno Baldwin. Member Mary Smith has reviewed the applications and the record prior to leaving for a family Thanksgiving.

From the Planning and Zoning Office I would like you to meet our new Director, Jeff Harris, and Planner Kirsten Holland.

Tonight we are here to provide the opportunity for public comment on 2 land use applications. The 1st will be the application for a zoning variance by Jane Bolles and Martha Sloan. The 2nd will be the amended application for expansion of the old Evans gravel pit by Spoklie and Hoover.

I will outline the procedure for commenting tonight. Speakers will be limited to 2 minutes for their initial comments. Comments should focus on the specific issues requested in the applications.

1) A Planning and Zoning staff member will summarize the application and recommendations the staff report.
2) The applicant will have the first opportunity to speak (not more than 5 minutes).
3) Those who checked "to speak" on the sign in sheet may speak.
4) People may then speak from the floor if they have not yet spoken.
5) There will be an additional opportunity to respond to or clarify previous remarks and to ask questions.

In closure we will entertain a motion from the floor to support or deny the application.

A summary of the meeting will be included in the advisory letter sent to the Planning and Zoning Office, and on to the Planning Board and County Commissioners.

Meeting moderated by Pat McClelland, 29 November 2005

To: Flathead County Commissioners Watne, Brenneman, and Hall

Re: Potential effects on wildlife of the Middle Canyon Area from operation of the Spoklie/Hoover gravel pit.

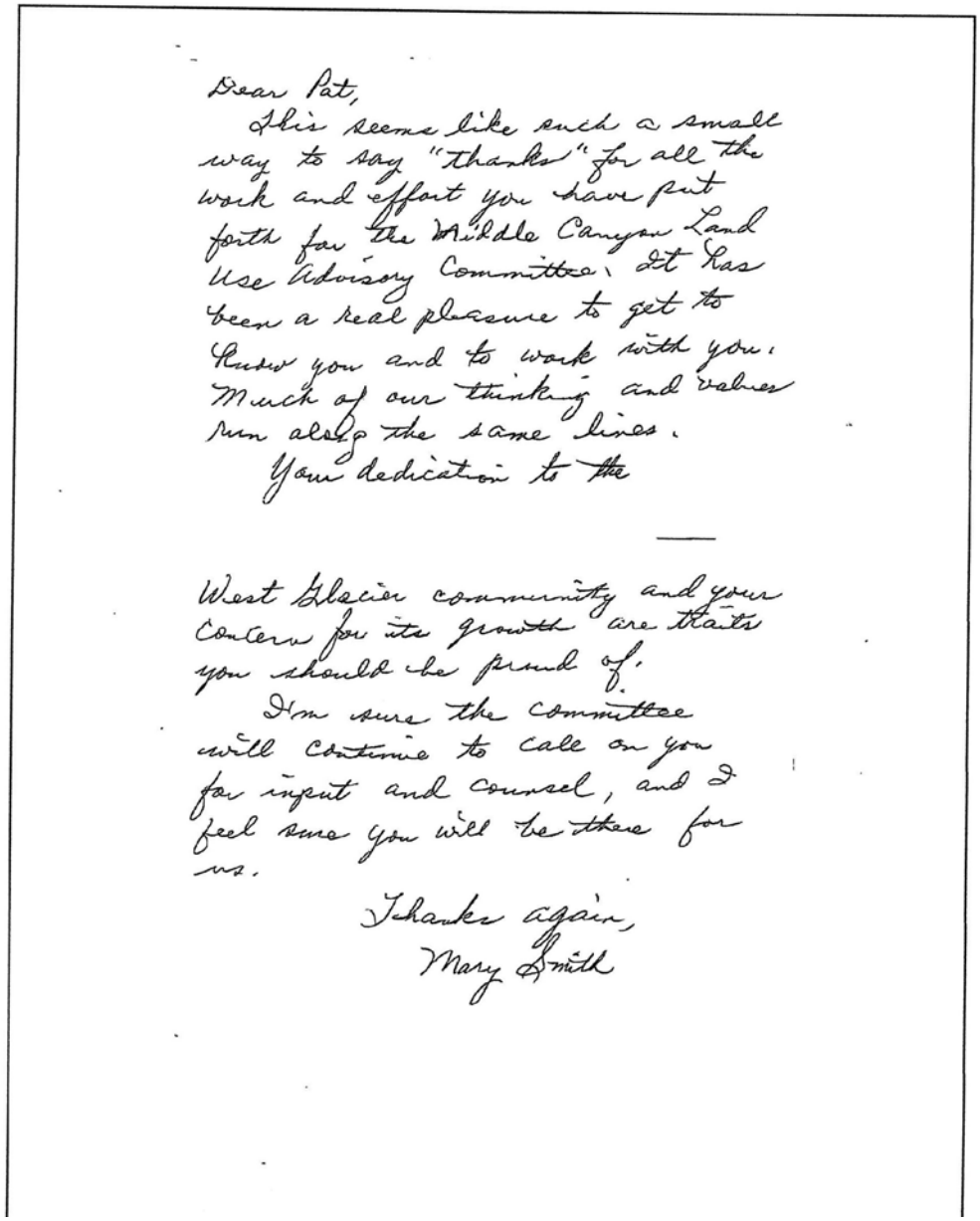
On 18 January 2006 I met with Jim Williams, Wildlife Manager, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, at the Kalispell office, to follow up a letter from Karin Connelly to Jeff Harris of Flathead County Planning and Zoning. The letter requested Planning and Zoning Office consultation with FWP personnel on impacts on wildlife from operation and potential expansion of the Spoklie gravel pit in the Middle Canyon Land Use Area. Reported input from FWP had been limited to the possible impact of horse manure piles attracting bears. (Tim Manley and Eric Wenum had visited the gravel pit.)

Jim reviewed the potential impacts with me. Jim felt the wildlife use maps in the Canyon Plan were still relevant. He provided an Incident Map for grizzly and black bears and mountain lions for the period 1996-1999 (attached). The map included the Middle Canyon Land Use Area and showed that grizzlies were using and moving thru the area between Glacier National Park and Flathead National Forest. He knew of grizzly deaths on BNSF tracks in the Lake Five Area which had been described to me previously by Rick Mace, FWP. The Canyon FWP wildlife position is vacant and detailed recent data is not available. Tim Manley was on leave and not available for comment.

I told Jim that some Middle Canyon residents have had fewer wildlife sightings during the past two years. We discussed the gravel pit operation. In his opinion noise from pit operation would have the most serious consequences affecting wildlife travel routes and other use of the Middle Canyon Area. Winter and spring through calving and fawning would be the very worst time of year for gravel pit operation. During that period wildlife of the Canyon is dependent on low elevation habitat. I commented that noise does not stop at the Middle Fork River and that wildlife of the river corridor in Glacier National Park would also be affected.

Pat McClelland, M.S. Wildlife Biology

Letter from Pat to Flathead County Commissioners, 22 January 2006



Dear Pat,

This seems like such a small way to say "thanks" for all the work and effort you have put forth for the Middle Canyon Land Use Advisory Committee. It has been a real pleasure to get to know you and to work with you. Much of our thinking and values run along the same lines.

Your dedication to the

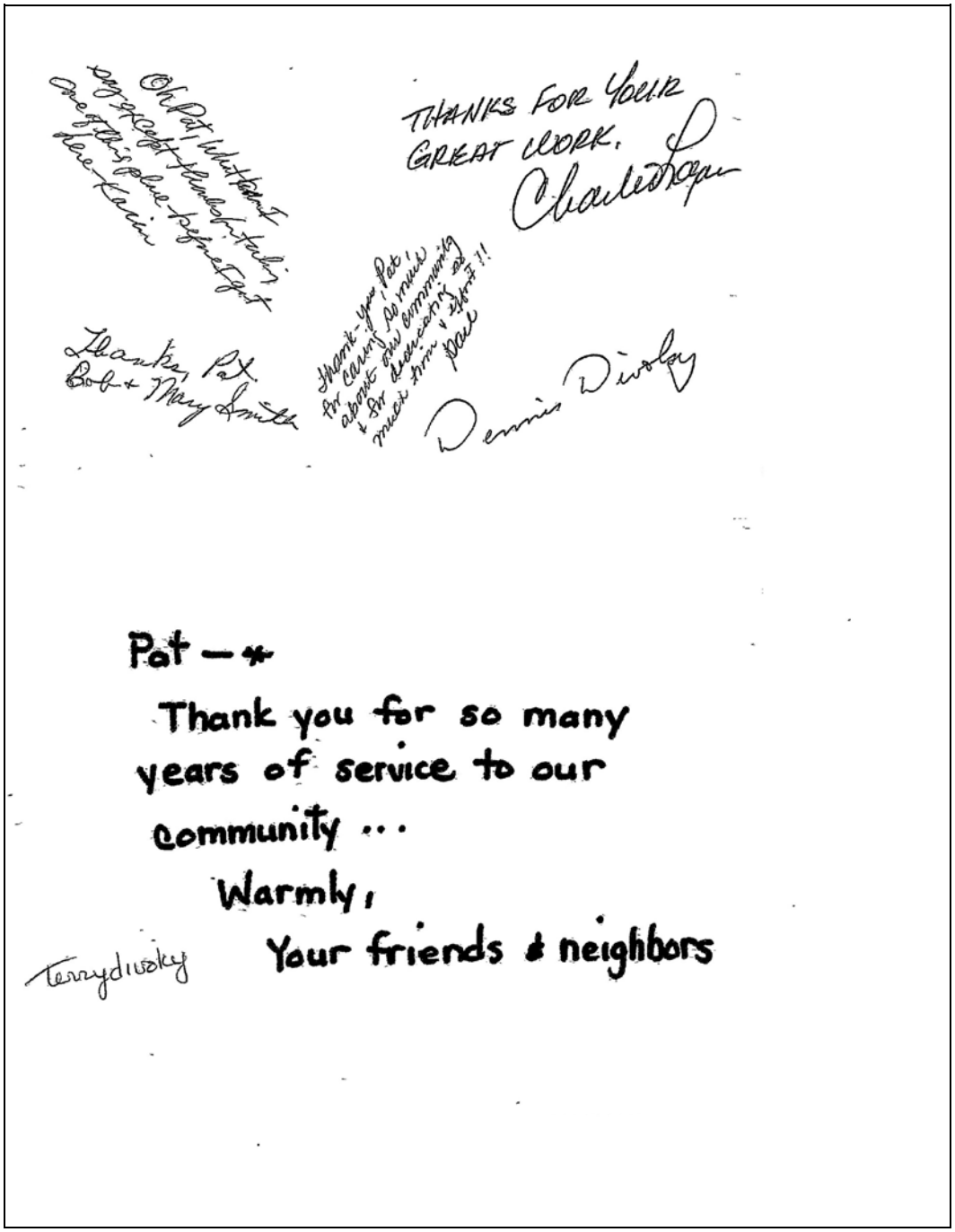
West Glacier community and your concern for its growth are traits you should be proud of.

I'm sure the committee will continue to call on you for input and counsel, and I feel sure you will be there for us.

Thanks again,

Mary Smith

Note to Pat from Mary Smith, on the occasion of Pat's retirement from MCLUAC. A retirement "gathering" was held at the Ann and Dan Fagre house, spring 2006.



Note from a few West Glacier community "activists", at Pat's MCLUAC retirement party, spring 2006.

After retiring from MCLUAC, Pat volunteered for a position on the County Parks Committee. She kept track of use, and regulation compliance at the Edgar Park (at Blankenship Bridge) and the West Glacier County Park. The county park was established along Belton Stage Road, at the old West Glacier landfill dump site. It had been covered with dirt and seeded with grass. She also continued to make input on planning issues.

9 January 2007
Box 366
West Glacier, MT 59936

Dear Commissioners Brenneman, Hall, and Lauman:

During 1993 Canyon area residents, recognizing cultural and environmental concerns, hired a professional planner to guide them through the neighborhood plan process and develop a growth policy for the area. A consensus of 85% of the Middle Canyon residents put the neighborhood plan in place. The plan provided a framework for growth decisions that would preserve the unique character of this gateway community to Glacier National Park. This Plan is now threatened by Planning Board Revisions the Draft Growth Policy.

In its revision of the Draft Growth Policy, the Planning Board has gutted the Neighborhood Plan process. What disturbs me most is the requirement for "votes" on the plan in which the value of your vote would be based on how many acres you own. I believe that such a provision may be unconstitutional and that it would set a threatening precedent for democracy in Flathead County. In a democratic society one vote is one vote. The original draft for Neighborhood Plans prepared by the Planning Office should replace the Planning Board version before adoption of this Draft Growth Policy.

Maps have been of special concern throughout this planning process. Flathead County had nearly 10 years to develop a Growth Policy. Now, without having hired professional outside help, the county had a work load that was beyond the capacity and staffing of its planning office to complete in such limited time. The Planning Office wisely deferred mapping in favor of text with the provision of the 1987 map in place until the new mapping process is completed. The Planning Board has replaced the 1987 map with an incomplete map. The comprehensive 1987 map should be put back into the Draft Growth Policy. The Shallow Ground Water and the Special Policy Areas Maps should also be left in. Consideration for the Class I Air Shed of Glacier National Park should be reinserted. Additional provisions for wildlife security should be included.

As a taxpayer in Flathead County I am paying the wages of a professional planning staff to write the Draft Growth Policy for this County. The Planning Board, selected from volunteers, is not representative of the diversity of community opinion, nor do they represent specific geographical areas. They review in the context of their own experience and associations. The members of the Planning Board have been dedicated to the review of the Draft Growth Policy. As a former volunteer for the Commissioners I appreciate their time and effort. However, where wording changes have been made in the original draft, I hope that you, as Flathead County Commissioners, will consider the public comments and follow the advice of the professional planning staff about the implications of the wording changes, before approving this document.

Sincerely,

Patricia McClelland

Pat remained active in the community throughout her later years. After Pat's death (15 July 2022), we received a beautiful letter from the Divokys. It describes why Pat worked so well with other people:

"Pat was such a powerful little "hummingbird." She left me with so many memories I wanted to share a few with you. I was a new naturalist Becky Williams hired and I was able to work the eagle season. When I met Pat, I wanted to be just like her, she was such a good birder and I remember counting eagles with her as they flew over us to roost. I saw a fraction of what she saw and so wanted to learn to be as good a spotter of eagles as Pat. She also knew birds by sound! My gosh, how does she do that, I wonder. I want to be just like that (I never have been able to be as good as Pat on either of those things).

Becky invited Dennis and me along with Pat and sometimes Riley to many a dinner. We loved the conversations, always about birds, bears, environmental things. Becky and Pat would talk about going to "exotic" places in Canada to track eagles that had been marked with radio trackers. What amazing women, we thought (and still do think they were amazing).

Then there is the Pat of the Middle Canyon land Use Advisory Committee. Pat's knowledge of the regulations most likely hasn't been topped since she and Ann Fagre left the board. Pat wasn't one to be cowed or stumped by anyone. We felt so confident in the regulations and Pat's presentation and response to questions or proposals about zoning. I never was able to understand and know the regulations like Pat did.

I just wanted you to know what a formidable woman we thought Pat was and how proud we were to know her.

Terry and Dennis Divoky"
21 July 2022

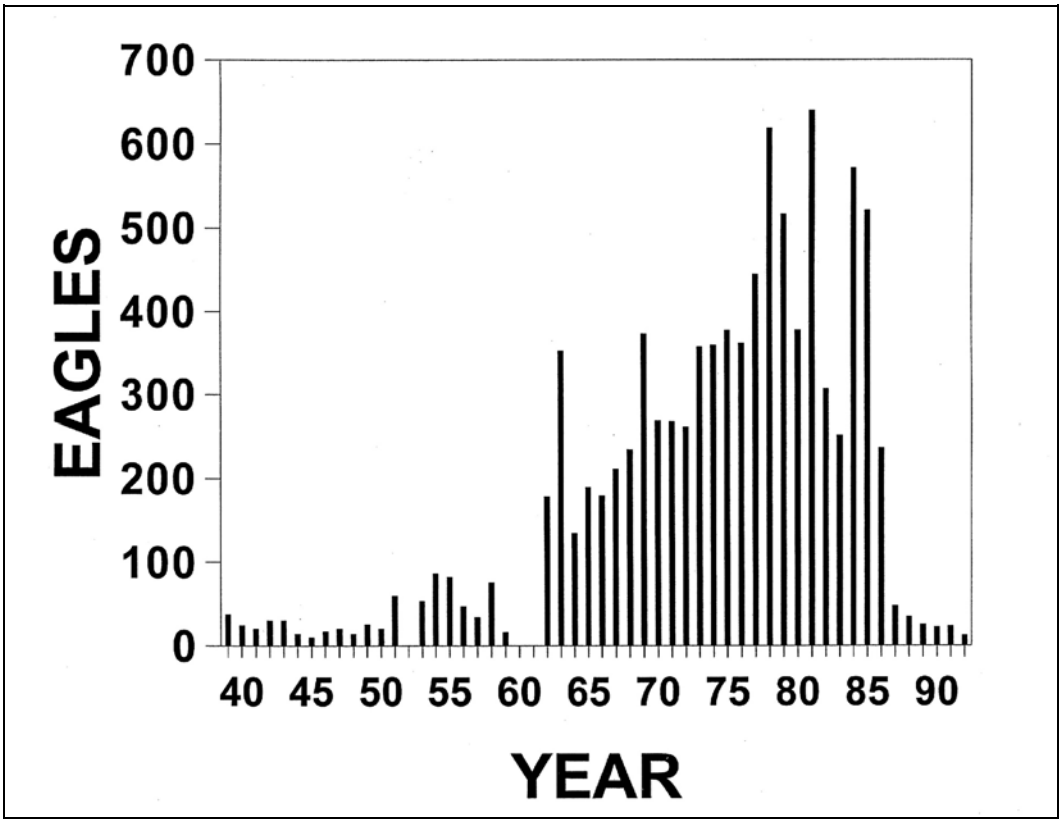
Part 6: Bald Eagle Research in Glacier National Park and the Northwest Territories (NWT), Canada

PAT'S BALD EAGLE RESEARCH IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK AND WESTERN CANADA

Pat was an essential part of our long-term Bald Eagle research in Glacier National Park and beyond. When we arrived in Glacier, on a job transfer from Yellowstone, a major concentration of Bald Eagles was occurring each autumn along Lower McDonald Creek. Kokanee salmon had been introduced into Flathead Lake in1916 and gradually developed a major spawning run 60 miles upstream to McDonald Creek. All kokanee died after spawning, providing a major food source during October into December for eagles, grizzly bears, and other species. At peak, the kokanee run numbered about 100,000 fish. Bald Eagles peaked at 639, in 1981.

The fall congregation ended as a result of complex interactions between kokanee, Mysis Shrimp (introduced into Flathead Lake in 1981), and Lake Trout, introduced into Flathead Lake long ago (1905). By 1991, no kokanee were recorded in Lower McDonald Creek (see"Shrimp Stocking, Salmon Collapse, and Eagle displacement," by Spencer, McClelland, and Stanford, *Bioscience* 41(1):14-21).

In autumn 1965, we began weekly Bald Eagle censuses by canoe, along Lower McDonald Creek from the Lake McDonald outlet to its junction with the Middle Fork of the Flathead River, continuing down the Middle Fork to its junction with the North Fork.



Largest number of eagles counted on a single autumn census, 1939-1992.

Pat either recorded flyovers at the Quarter Circle Bridge or rode in the canoe, counting and recording. During a few years in the mid 1970s, other Park personnel did the counts when we were occupied with work in Missoula. Counts continued through 1992.

Pat preparing for an eagle count at Quarter Circle Bridge, Lower McDonald Creek. The Creek merged with the Middle Fork of the Flathead River a few hundred feet downstream from the Bridge. Many eagles flew ahead of the canoe counters, downstream and over the Bridge. Pat tallied the flyovers.

In 1977, Dave Shea, Pat, Betsy Spettigue and I began a study of the migration routes of Bald Eagles that stopped at the fall congregation at Lower McDonald Creek. We captured and banded 303 eagles during 1977-1988. Additionally, 121 eagles received patagial wing markers and 66 had small radio transmitters attached (primarily, tail mounts).

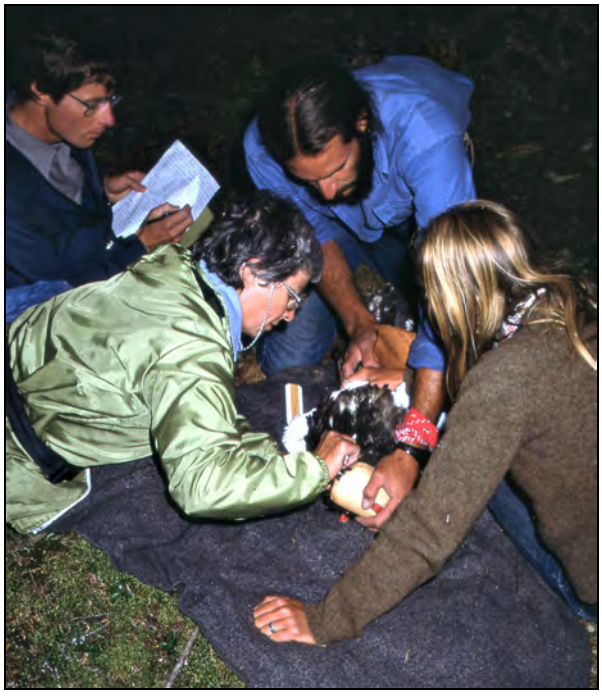
Pat with a three-yr old Bald Eagle that we had just captured along Lower McDonald Creek

Pat, with a Bald Eagle, in the Oxbow observation blind; we had just captured the eagle along Lower McDonald Creek and were preparing to band and mark it before release.

Colleagues that worked on the eagle research project included Pat's best friend, naturalist Becky Williams. Others were Harriet Allen, Rob Bennetts, Elaine Caton, Ursula Mattson, Mary McFadzen, Vita Wright, and Rick Yates. University of Montana students Jay Crenshaw and Leonard Young both earned Master's Degrees with their own research specialties within the project. Numerous students volunteered for short terms on the project.

Pat preparing to release Bald Eagle after leg banding, marking (A-70), and transmitter equipping (note small antenna wire extending from the end of the tail).

Pat loved the eagles and always treated them with special care



Pat installing backpack transmitters on juvenile Bald Eagles.

M. Ober, Pat, R. Yates, E. Caton

M. McFadzen, R. Bown, Pat on the floor

PAT TRACKS BALD EAGLE NELL (A-77)

From 1965 through 1988, Pat was one of the primary researchers involved in capturing, marking (leg bands and wing markers), transmitter equipping, and tracking Bald Eagles from the autumn concentrations in GNP. From 1978-1989, this included many spring and summer trips into Canada's Northwest Territories.

At the 1980 eagle congregation in GNP, we equipped an adult Bald Eagle with wing markers (A-77) and a tail-feather mount transmitter, on 23 November. After A-77 (Pat called her "Nell") departed the salmon feast at GNP on 30 November, we tracked her to the Blackfoot Valley, near Ovando, MT, on 16 December. Nell spent the winter in and near the Blackfoot Valley. Pat devoted many days driving from Missoula to the Blackfoot to monitor Nell's movements and foraging habits. Nell remained in the Blackfoot Valley until 19 March 1991, when she began her spring northward migration.

On flights with Strand Aviation out of Kalispell, we tracked Nell to the Swan Valley, the South Fork of the Flathead, and the Flathead's North Fork. By 21 March Nell was near the mouth of Kintla Creek, on the North Fork. Then, 22 March was an especially exciting day. Pat and I were in a strand Cessna piloted by Bill Warner, flying "with" Nell as she crossed Middle Kootenai Pass and onto the east side of the Rockies, in Canada.

At that point, we decided that Pat would drive north with Becky Williams, (our friend and dependable eagle research volunteer). Becky was willing to use her car - much newer than ours. When they lost Nell's transmitter signal on the ground, they were to hire a nearby Cessna operator to relocate Nell's position. They drove West Glacier to Calgary, then Edmonton, and on north. On 30 March, flying out of Ft. Vermillion, Alberta, Pat and Becky found Nell in Wood Buffalo National Park (Alberta/Northwest Territories). On 1 April, Nell was on the ground, east of Lake Claire, in Wood Buffalo, near a dead bison, and a cottonwood tree with a nest! Pat and Becky had found the first nest of a migrating Bald Eagle from the Autumn migration concentration in GNP! Unfortunately, as far as Pat could determine, Nell did not lay eggs that summer.

On 19 June, Pat pinpointed the location of Nell's molted transmitter. On 18 July1981, Pat closed out the tracking of Nell by recovering Nell's transmitter. It was still attached to Nell's two central tail feathers that had been dropped in the annual feather molt. Pat found the transmitter about a mile from Nell's nest.

Pat viewing Bald Eagle (Nell, A-77) nest, near Lake Claire, Wood Buffalo National Park, NWT, Canada, 9 July 1981. Nell's nest failed that year.

Pat recovering Nell's molted two central tail feathers, with transmitter attached. One mile from Nell's nest, in Wood Buffalo National Park, 18 July 1981.

PAT PURSUES BALD EAGLE CHIADE (A-03)

In 1982-1983, Pat spent many days tracking a subadult female Bald Eagle with orange wing markers coded A-03 (we called the eagle "Chiade"). On 8 December 1982, Pat and I had captured and marked Chiade at the Lower McDonald Creek, Glacier National Park (GNP) research site. We also equipped A-03 with a radio transmitter, mounted at the bases of the two central tail feathers.

A-03 roosted along McDonald Creek that night and departed on the following morning (9 December). Chiade flew though Badrock Canyon and into the Flathead Valley, then headed south. Pat located Chiade at Echo Lake, southeast of Kalispell, on 10 and 11 December. On a tracking flight (21 December 1982) with Strand Aviation, we located Chiade in the south end of the Swan Valley. The next day (22 December), we found Chiade in the Blackfoot River Drainage, at Patterson Prairie. That turned out to be A-03's wintering location, where she fed primarily on carrion (196 km south of where we had marked her).

Pat tracked and observed Chiade throughout the winter of 1982-1983, much as she had done with A-77 (Nell) in winter 1980-1981. Driving east from Missoula, where we wintered (while Riley taught at the University of Montana), Pat relocated A-03 numerous times in the vicinity of Patterson Prairie throughout January, February, and March.

Chiade started her spring migration between 2 and 6 April. During a tracking flight on 7 April, Pat picked up Chiade's signal near Red Deer, Alberta. On 9 April, we saw (from the air) Chiade on the ground, feeding on a moose carcass near Buck Lake, Alberta. Pat continued to track Chiade northward (in chartered Cessna aircraft). On 13 April, Chiade was soaring east of Edmonton, Alberta. On 15 April, Pat observed Chiade soaring with another Bald Eagle 2,000 ft above the ground, near Saddle Lake, Alberta.

On tracking flights of 16, 18, 19, 20 April, we observed Chiade on the ice at Whitford Lake, near Andrew, Alberta. On 22 April, Pat saw Chiade perched in a cottonwood at the edge of Whitford Lake. On the 30 April flight, Pat photographed Chiade soaring 800 ft above Tsu Lake, Northwest Territories (NWT), Canada.

We made two more trips to the NWT for further aerial tracking, in June (6-23) and in August (5-10). On 11 June, we observed Chiade near the Taltson River Delta, Great Slave Lake, (GSL), NWT. During tracking flights of 12- 22 June, we located Chiade in the Hornby Channel, and near Preble Island, GSL. On 5 August, Pat and I observed Chiade flying over a small lake south of Gagnon Lake, NWT. This was our final summer location (928 miles N of GNP, 150 miles NNE of Fort Smith, NWT, and 30 miles S of the East Arm of GSL). We felt certain that Chiade had molted her tail feathers (with the transmitter attached) in this vicinity. The transmitter signal continued to originate from the edge of the lake while Chiade flew beyond the lake (we identified her by her wing markers, both of which were visible). We departed Fort Smith on a 1245 Pacific Western flight to Calgary and then drove to West Glacier.

The excitement of tracking the transmitter signal from a Bald Eagle was shared with Pat's friend, Marcy Bishop (a U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service employee at the National Bison Range, north of Missoula, Montana). Marcy lived near Polson, MT, at the south end of Flathead Lake. Pat had located the signal of A-94 (Pan), a juvenile Bald, just south of Polson on 17 December 1982 (Pan had been transmitter-equipped at LMC on 15 October 1982). Pan's signal could be acquired from Marcy's house during many days that winter. Marcy had hoped to go north to NWT to search for Pan's transmitter, accompanying Pat on a journey to recover Chiade's transmitter. Pan started northward migration on 12 March; he

spent 15-23 March in GNP, mostly near the Middle Fork/Coal Creek junction. On 26 March, he was headed north, east of the Continental Divide, at the Canadian border. Unfortunately for Marcy, Pan's transmitter was retrieved on 9 July, by Jay Crenshaw, near Lloyd Lake, Saskatchewan.

As autumn approached, Pat prepared to return to the NWT to try to recover Chiade's transmitter at the site we had pinpointed in August. Marcy decided to go with her even though A-94's mystery had been solved. Marcy volunteered to use her van; they drove to Calgary on 15 September and spent the night in the Chateau Airport Hotel. On 16 September, they took an early morning flight (Pacific Western) to Fort Smith, NWT.

Mid-September is early winter at Fort Smith, so this was bound to be a challenging objective. They arrived in Fort Smith and were met by Fort Smith Air pilot Charlie Russell, with whom Pat previously had flown many times. We had chartered flying time for the search. The temperature on arrival was 28 degrees F and cloud cover to the north (the direction needed for their flight). Charlie took them to Pelican Rapids Inn to check in and suggested that they quickly prepare for a flight. The weather forecast was for increasing storminess - cloud cover, colder air, and snow flurries.

When they got to the float base, Charlie discovered that the Cessna 185 float plane had a frayed alternator belt. The mechanic was nowhere to be found, so Charlie managed to take a belt from another plane at the base. After he had replaced the belt, the trio took off on the Chiade transmitter search. As they flew north from Fort Smith, the pilot took the plane above the 80% cloud cover and went to 10,000 ft. At the Gagnon Lake vicinity, Chiade's last known location in August, Pat had a good signal from Chiade's transmitter.

There were isolated holes in the cloud deck; Charlie found one and went down below the cloud deck. Pat determined that the transmitter was still near the shore at the small lake south of the east arm of Gagnon Lake. It was a narrow, shallow lake, so a hazardous landing site. Charlie put the plane down with precision and taxied to shore near the signal. Pat wrote in her journal: "Landed, but not much leeway. Shallow areas. Beached at marshy area. Thick brush over our heads. Beautiful birch perch trees - broken top snags. Reeds and brush growing out of the water's edge. Lake level high. Good signal from Chiade with the transmitter cord attached only to the receiver [the cord normally is also attached to an antenna]."

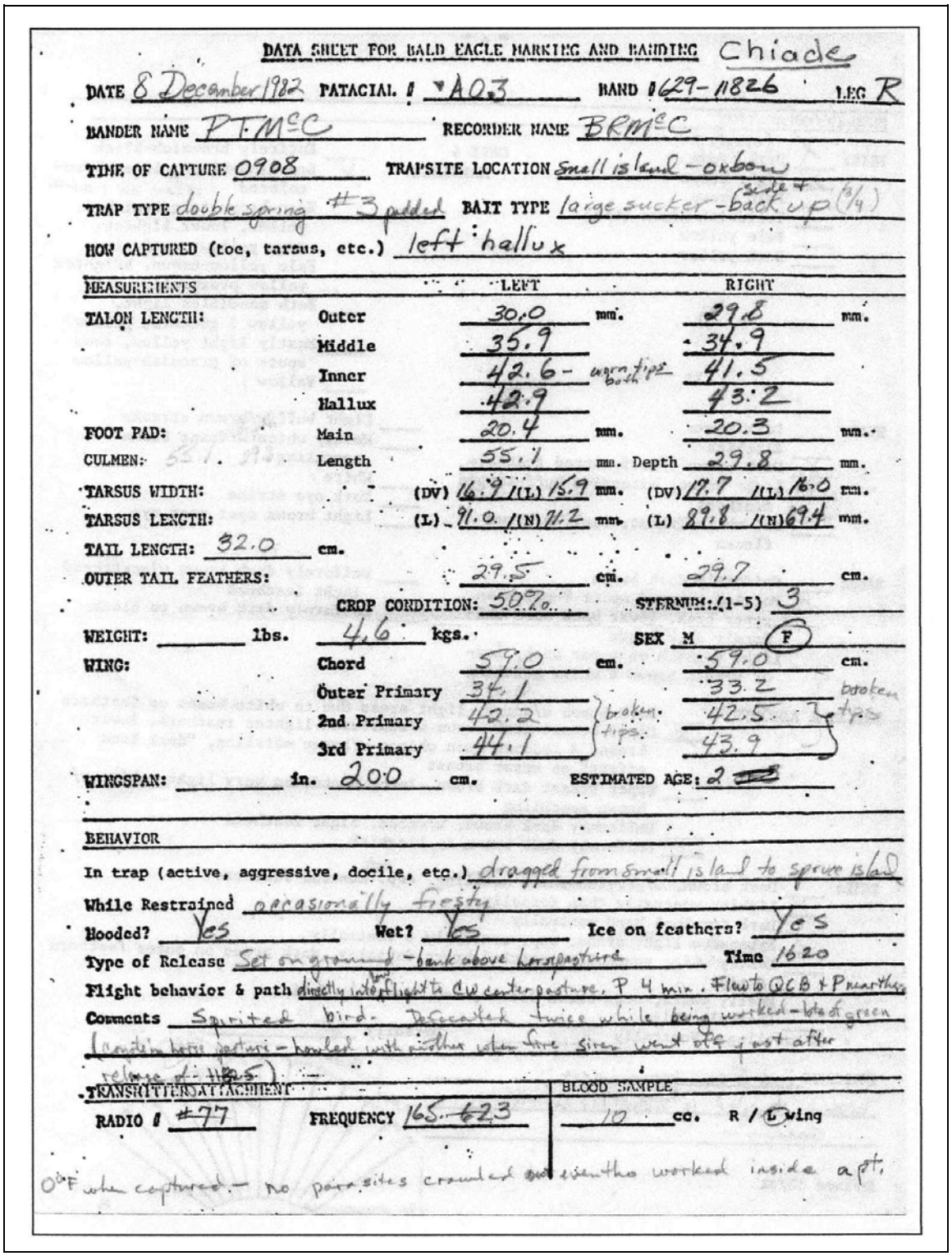
The transmitter must have been under the water. Pat could not see it. As they planned on how they might try to get at it, rain and snow showers moved in. The pilot became nervous and told Pat and Marcy that they had to get airborne and on their way back to Smith quickly, unless they wanted to be stranded at this small unnamed lake. Charlie made a dogleg takeoff to avoid rocks in shallow water and the influence of gusty wind. The return to Smith had to be made on an indirect route because of cloud cover and snow showers. They flew through some areas in which ice began to coat the aircraft. They were safely back at Fort Smith at 1625 hrs, a flight of 3.7 hrs, frustrated not to have retrieved the transmitter.

That evening, Pat phoned me to ask if I had enough money in the research budget for them to make one more flight. I told her to go ahead; we would find the funds to cover it. The next three days were too stormy for a flight. The morning of 20 September at Fort Smith provided satisfactory flight weather locally. At 0910 hrs, Pat and Marcy arrived at the float base to find pilot Charlie Russell working on removing frost that covered the Cessna 185. After that task was completed, they were back in the air, hoping for one more

chance to recover Chiade's transmitter.

They flew east to Wylie Lake, then to the north shore of Lake Athabasca, The clouds to the north were solid, with snow showers, so it was not possible to return to Chiade's Lake. The trio was back at the float base dock at 1030 hrs, with no transmitter signals having been heard on this short flight. Pat and Marcy scurried to get ready for the 1230 hrs Pacific Western departure to Calgary, and then the drive back to West Glacier. The Chiade story had ended - almost.

During the autumn 1983 Bald Eagle migration, concentration at Lower McDonald Creek, Chiade was not reported. However, during the 1984 congregation - a surprise. Pat was in the Oxbow blind on 27 November, observing Eagle interactions in the big spruce perch tree. A Bald with orange wing markers arrived. With her spotting scope, Pat was able to read the code on the markers: A-03. It was Chiade!! She was near adult plumage, but her white head had scattered dark feathers. Her body feathers were uniformly dark. She had golden irises (they were brown when we captured her in 1982). Chiade was not seen the following day or thereafter. Pat's observation on the 27th was the final record for Chiade.



DATA SHEET FOR BALD EAGLE MARKING AND BANDING Chiade

DATE 8 December 1982 PATAGIAL # A03 BAND # 629-11826 LEG R

BANDER NAME PTMcC RECORDER NAME BRMcC

TIME OF CAPTURE 0908 TRAPSITE LOCATION Small island - oxbow

TRAP TYPE double spring #3 padded BAIT TYPE large sucker - back up (3/4 side)

HOW CAPTURED (toe, tarsus, etc.) left hallux

MEASUREMENTS		LEFT		RIGHT	
TALON LENGTH:	Outer	30.0	mm.	29.8	mm.
	Middle	35.9		34.9	
	Inner	42.6 - worn tips		41.5	
	Hallux	42.9		43.2	
FOOT PAD:	Main	20.4	mm.	20.3	mm.
CULMEN:	Length	55.1	mm. Depth	29.8	mm.
TARSUS WIDTH:		(DV) 16.9 /(L) 15.9	mm.	(DV) 17.7 /(L) 16.0	mm.
TARSUS LENGTH:		(L) 91.0 /(N) 71.2	mm.	(L) 89.8 /(N) 69.4	mm.
TAIL LENGTH: 32.0 cm.					
OUTER TAIL FEATHERS:		29.5	cm.	29.7	cm.

CROP CONDITION: 50% STERNUM: (1-5) 3

WEIGHT: _____ lbs. 4.6 kgs. SEX M (F)

WING:				
	Chord	59.0 cm.	59.0	cm.
	Outer Primary	34.1	33.2	broken tips
	2nd Primary	42.2 broken tips.	42.5	
	3rd Primary	44.1	43.9	

WINGSPAN: _____ in. 200 cm. ESTIMATED AGE: 2 ~~3~~

BEHAVIOR

In trap (active, aggressive, docile, etc.) dragged from small island to spruce island

While Restrained occasionally feisty

Hooded? Yes Wet? Yes Ice on feathers? Yes

Type of Release Set on ground - bank above Lorsp capture Time 1620

Flight behavior & path directly into light to CW center pasture, P 4 min. Flew to QCB + P near there

Comments Spirited bird. Defecated twice while being worked - bit of green (contains horse pasture - howled with mother when fire siren went off just after release (1625)

TRANSMITTER ATTACHMENT

RADIO # #77 FREQUENCY 165.623

BLOOD SAMPLE

10 cc. R / (L) wing

0°F when captured - no parasites crawled out when worked inside apt.

A-03 **banding Record.**

PAT FLIES FROM LA RONGE TO YELLOWKNIFE

Pat had many exciting adventures on the eagle migration project. On 6 June 1983, we drove from West Glacier to Edmonton (448 miles). We spent the following two nights at a small cabin owned by Sheila and Hugh Campbell, in the outskirts of Edmonton. After developing an eagle-tracking plan, we split up. Riley dropped Pat at the Edmonton International Airport from which Pat flew to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Riley continued on to Yellowknife, Northwest Territories (902 miles), in our old vehicle (Hornet) previously owned by Pat's Mother. Pat then took a bus from Saskatoon to La Ronge, Saskatchewan. On 9 June, Pat was in a motel in La Ronge and Riley was in Yellowknife.

La Ronge Air had offered to let one of us join a flight (free) from La Ronge to Yellowknife (611 miles, via Uranium City). Pat wanted to do it, rather than driving alone to Yellowknife. Pat installed a tracking antenna on each wing of the La Ronge Beaver aircraft (with floats), in preparation for signal monitoring. Signals emanated from transmitters that had been attached to central tail feathers of Bald Eagles. Transmitters had been attached to eagles at GNP's eagle congregation the previous autumn. Stormy weather delayed the La Ronge flight until 11 June. In the meantime, Riley took several tracking flights out of Yellowknife, while waiting for Pat's arrival.

Pat's flight got airborne at 1625 hrs on 11 June, with Rob Purdy piloting the La Ronge Beaver. There were two other passengers on board. The flight weather was satisfactory at La Ronge, with a ceiling of 3,000 ft. As they flew north toward Cree Lake, the weather deteriorated and the cloud deck lowered to 500 ft, increasingly marginal at best for visual flight rules. Frequent rain obscured the terrain. Purdy was forced to fly the plane as low as 150 ft above the forest or a river. Pat said that Purdy followed the MacFarlane River when it more or less aligned with the azimuth to Uranium City. This usually put the plane lower than the ridges that were adjacent to the River. When they reached Cree Lake, they flew under dense fog, 200 ft above this large lake (35 miles across on their route).

As they approached Uranium City, where they had to land to refuel, the cloud deck gradually lifted to 2,000 ft AGL. The flight west from Uranium City remained much improved, with the cloud deck eventually lifting to 8,500 ft AGL. I was waiting for Pat at the La Ronge float base in Yellowknife as they landed on the North Arm of Great Slave Lake - at 36 minutes to midnight, and still light. Pat's monitoring on the flight had picked up several different Bald Eagle transmitter signals. Because the flight was generally at such a low elevation, she saw numerous perched eagles along the route.

Pat at the La Ronge Beaver aircraft, Yellowknife float base.

Pat recovering molted tail feathers (two central tail feathers, with radio transmitter attached), at Thubun Lake, NWT, 20 July 1984, on a La Ronge Beaver, eagle-search flight.

Pat also assisted in the rehabilitation and release of a Golden Eagle, in 1986.

—Community

The Daily Inter Lake, Kalispell, Montana,

Photo By Rick Hull

Unbound for freedom

Jeff Sternad and Pat McClelland remove the hood and bounds from a golden eagle they returned to the wild on Wednesday. The eagle was found weak and starving last month by McClelland's husband, Riley, along McDonald Creek in Glacier National Park. Sternad nursed and fed the predator back to health at his farm south of Columbia Falls. A radio transmitter will keep track of the bird's travels.

On 18 November 1986, Pat and Riley found this Golden Eagle, unable to fly, along Lower McDonald Creek. MT FWP Biologist Mike Aderhold took the eagle to Sternad on that date. The release portrayed in the photo (Kalispell Daily InterLake) occurred on 10 December 1986.

2008 Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society Awards

The Distinguished Service Award of the Montana Chapter of The Wildlife Society for 2008 goes to B. Riley and Pat McClelland. This is the first joint award of the Chapter. Presented by Steve Gniadek at the annual awards banquet, February 28, 2008.

Now retired and living in West Glacier, Riley and Pat have had long and distinguished careers in the wildlife profession, primarily in Montana. A Colorado native, Riley received a B.S. degree from Colorado State University (CSU), known at the time as the Ranger Factory, and began his career with the National Park Service in 1954. Pat and Riley married in 1956 and spent several winters (1957-61) together at Old Faithful in Yellowstone NP before snowmobiles converted a rustic backcountry outpost into a haze-shrouded destination resort. Riley participated in the Yellowstone Field Research Expeditions conducted by Dr. Vincent Schaefer, the State University of New York, in the 1960s.

Pat deserves equal recognition as Riley's partner for over 50 years. Pat spent part of her childhood in Havre where her father taught botany at Northern Montana College, and spent several summers in Yellowstone where her father worked as a seasonal park naturalist beginning in 1939. After helping Riley complete his PhD at UM, Pat embarked on a Master's Degree in wildlife at UM, with a study of the ecology of Bald Eagles on Hungry Horse Reservoir. She received her degree in 1992. Pat spent many weeks tracking transmitter-equipped Bald Eagles in northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories, as a field biologist on the Glacier eagle migration study. Pat was actively involved in the Chapter's highly acclaimed publication on the Effects of Recreation on Rocky Mountain Wildlife.

Pat and Riley are both individually deserving of this recognition, but even more so as a team.

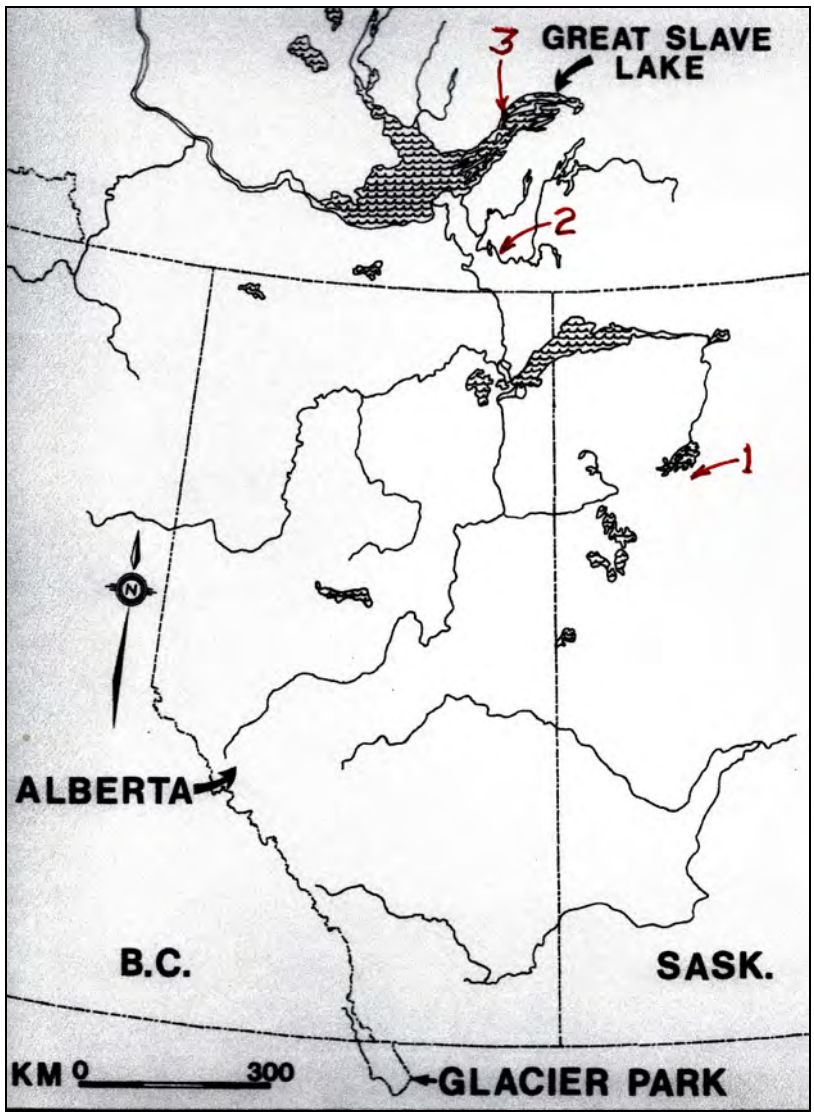
"We (*Pat and Riley*) thank Steve Gniadek and the Montana Chapter. In gratefully receiving this award, we honor the memory of Les Pengelly, our mentor at the University of Montana. His intellect and dedication always inspired us. We also honor our students and colleagues; thank you for sharing your knowledge and enthusiasm."

The Distinguished Service Award is presented annually for cumulative, past, current, and/or continuing achievements in wildlife conservations.

Based on her years of research on eagles, Pat was co-recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Service Award from the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society

Parts 7, 8, and 9. Bald Eagle transmitter recoveries in the Northwest Territories.

On following three Bald Eagles, we attached one aluminum leg band, two orange patagial markers (wing wraparounds, not penetrating) with a large black code (e.g., A-00) painted on the visible surface of the markers. We also attached a radio transmitter to the dorsal side of the two central tail feathers. The tail feathers would be dropped along with the transmitter sometime during the annual spring molt. We tracked each of these eagles from the air, but were limited by research funds, and free flights from government Departments in Alberta, and the Northwest Territories (NWT).



#1: A-90 (Sask.); #2: A-96 (NWT); #3: A-29 (NWT).

A-90, Adult Male (INDIANA JONES)
27 November 1981 date of capture; marker code A-90, transmitter frequency 165.424.

Ventral (under tail) transmitter attached to A-90

29 November
A-90 departed GNP

Wintering area
1 January 1989 - 19 March 1989
Mud Lake, Dubois, Idaho (541 km S of GNP)

Summering area
25 June 1982

On one of a series of flights, scanning for eagle transmitter signals, Pat and I flew from Fort Smith, NWT, in a Ft. Smith Air Cessna 185 with pontoons. We carried two five-gallon cans of fuel to extend potential flight time.

1140 hrs Airborne from the Ft. Smith's Four-Mile Float Base (pilot Kirk Campbell). We headed toward central Saskatchewan, in very smokey skies due to local forest fires.

South of Cree Lake, we picked up A-90's signal, along the Morin River, 4.5 miles downstream from a small lake below Morin Lake. There were at least two active Bald Eagle nests (two young in each nest), within one mile of the signal.

We had been having trouble with antenna wires and headwinds, so we had burned more fuel than anticipated. We decided to terminate this flight and make a new plan. On the way back to Ft. Smith, we were too low on fuel to risk continuing without refueling.

1612 hrs We landed on an unnamed lake; Kirk emptied the extra fuel containers into the wing gas tanks and we continued the flight back to Ft. Smith.

1853 hrs By the time we reached Fort Chipewyan, we were again getting low on fuel, so we landed at the Ft. Chip Float Base, where fuel was available.

2002 hrs We finally landed at the Ft. Smith Float Base.

Our new plan involved landing on the small lake nearest to the eagle's transmitter signal and then hiking cross-country to find the transmitter. That should allow sufficient time and fuel to accomplish the transmitter recovery. Pat was the photographer on this final flight for A-90's transmitter.

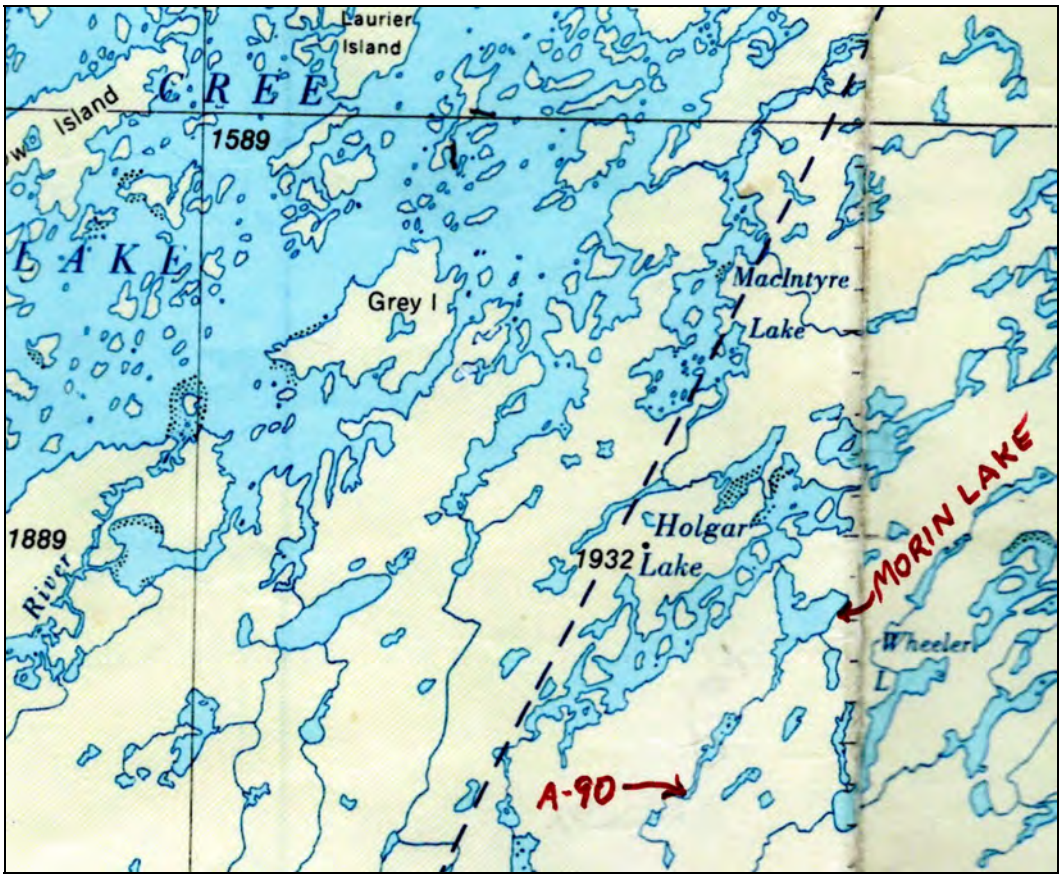
30 June 1982
0630 hrs. We flew from Fort Smith Float Base again, with pilot Kirk Campbell on the A-90 (Indy) transmitter retrieval mission.
0927 We landed on the south side of the small lake downstream from Morin Lake.

Kirk beached the plane, then tied it to a tree on the shore.

1005 We hiked, mainly through a burn (a few years old), for one hour and 35 minutes.
1130 at a forest grove along Morin Creek, we were close to the signal source (our estimated location on our first detection flight).

1140 The signal was coming from across Morin River, so we waded across to the north side of the Morin River (waist deep and slow).

The transmitter antenna was wrapped around a bare branch on an old log. A-90 must have landed there, and a tail flick wrapped the antenna around the branch. He apparently was able to pull out his two central tail feathers (which must have been nearly coming out in the annual molt) with the transmitter attached. Part of one feather remained with the transmitter (location 106.12, 57.24). We found a few molted eagle feathers and numerous fish bones along the creek.



A-90 transmitter retrieval site in Saskatchewan, along the Morin River. We landed on the small lake downstream from Morin Lake.

1215 Head back to plane.

On the way back to the plane, we took our time and enjoyed the flowers in the burn. There was a beautiful patch of cotton grass (*Eriophorum* sp.) near where we had beached the plane.

1400 arrival back at plane

1510 Airborne, but soon had to land at a small lake to refuel. We had carried extra petrol in containers stored in the back seat, next to Pat. Then take off again and head to Ft. Smith - still a lot of smoke in the air, poor visibility.

Part 8: Bald Eagle Transmitter recovery (A-96), in tributary of the Taltson River, Northwest Territories.

A-96, Subadult Male (APOLLO)
18 October 1982 date of capture
marker code A-96; transmitter frequency 165.372.

20 October
A-96 was observed flying over Quarter Circle Bridge, on his way out of GNP, and subsequently near the junction of the Middle and North Forks of the Flathead River.
21 October
A-96 was near Hungry Horse Dam
23 October
A-96 was located near Spotted Bear, upstream from Hungry Horse Reservoir; that was the last record on his migration south.
Wintering area
unknown
Spring migration
20 April 1983
Pat and I flew on an Alberta government Cessna 337 (pilot Rand Ritchie) scanning flight from Edmonton to Ft. McMurray, Alberta; picked up signal from A-96, soaring WSW of Ft. McMurray.
21 April 1983
Cessna 337 flight with pilot Rand Ritchie, out of Ft. McMurray, picked up Apollo's transmitter signal and then observed him perched along the Masque River, west of Wabasca Lake, Alberta. Returned to Ft. McMurray.
22 April 1983
Cessna 337 flight with pilot Rand Ritchie out of Ft. McMurray; observed A-96 perched on a log on an island in the Wabasca River; returned to Edmonton.

Summering area

Recovery of Apollo's transmitter turned out to be the most difficult recovery of all.

22 June 1983

On a flight chartered with Ft. Smith Air (pilot Jim Henninger), we located the transmitter signal in a marsh; we landed on a small lake connected to the marsh and walked one mile along the marsh to where the signal was strongest. The water was too deep to get near the transmitter. This location was in the Taltson River Drainage, 39 miles NNE of Ft. Smith, NWT (also 4 miles west of the northern arm of Methleka Lake and 5 miles southeast of Naylor Lakes).

Aerial view of marsh in which Apollo's transmitter was located.

From Pat's journal, **22 June**:
"1958 hrs. Land [on lake near A-96 signal source] taxied into bay, tied up on shore. Started walking from plane tie up along ridge above marsh [scattered trees]. Shortly after starting, observed black bear (medium size) crossing central grass/sedge area of marsh. We retreated as bear swam pond area of marsh, heading toward us. Bear came up hill and went over outcrop, away from area. We determined that the Apollo transmitter signal nearer to opposite side of marsh.

2115 hrs. returned to plane and taxied to other side of the bay and tied up near beaver lodge.
2120 hrs. hiked down that side of marsh. Signal coming from central area of marsh. Riley tried walking out toward signal - water much too deep. Head back to plane.
2215 hrs. Back at plane.
2220 hrs. taxi out of bay onto lake for take off
2225 hrs. take off and head to Fort Smith - nearly full moon - sun near horizon
2245 hrs. sunset 2250 hrs. land at Fort Smith float base."

5 August
In preparation for a return flight to retrieve Apollo's transmitter, we rented a two-man raft from Jacques Van Pelt, a guide/outfitter in Ft. Smith, and borrowed two pairs of snowshoes from Wood Buffalo National Park.

6 August 1983
0948 hrs. We flew from Fort Smith on Ft. Smith Air Cessna 185 (pilot Jim Henninger)
1015 hrs. landed on the same lake as 22 June.

.

1040 hrs. Left plane and hiked about a mile along the marsh, Riley carried his Kelty backpack, the two-man raft, and two pairs of snowshoes.
1230 hrs. We stopped where the transmitter signal was the strongest. Riley inflated the raft with a foot pump, then we paddled across the open water and snowshoed to a spot about 20ft from a beaver dam.

After pinpointing the signal, we searched in the water (under tall grass and sedges) for an hour. We finally found and recovered the transmitter from under eight in of water and matted vegetation (111.34, 60.51) (1310 km N of GNP).

Pat on snowshoes, with Apollo's transmitter.

Returning from transmitter recovery; aircraft in sight
1415 hrs. Arrived back at plane; a brief rest before boarding
1430 hrs. airborne for further signal tracking

Part 9: Bald Eagle Transmitter recovery (A-29), at Great Slave Lake, Northwest Territories.

A-29 Subadult Female (IRIS)
7 November 1988 capture date
marker code A-29; transmitter frequency 165.381.

That night we were able to receive A-29's transmitter signal at our West Glacier cabin, so she must have been roosting near LMC.

8 November
Iris departed GNP
18 November 1978
Her next known location**:** near the Wise River, a tributary of the Bighole River, southwestern Montana.

Wintering area
1 January 1989 and 19 March 1989
3 miles N of Brigham City, Utah, and 5 miles S of Tremonton, Utah

Spring migration
31 March 1989
Pat and I located A-29's transmitter signal over Apgar Mountains, GNP Isis on northward migration.
1 April
Iris soared over the Apgar Mountains and the signal disappeared to the north.

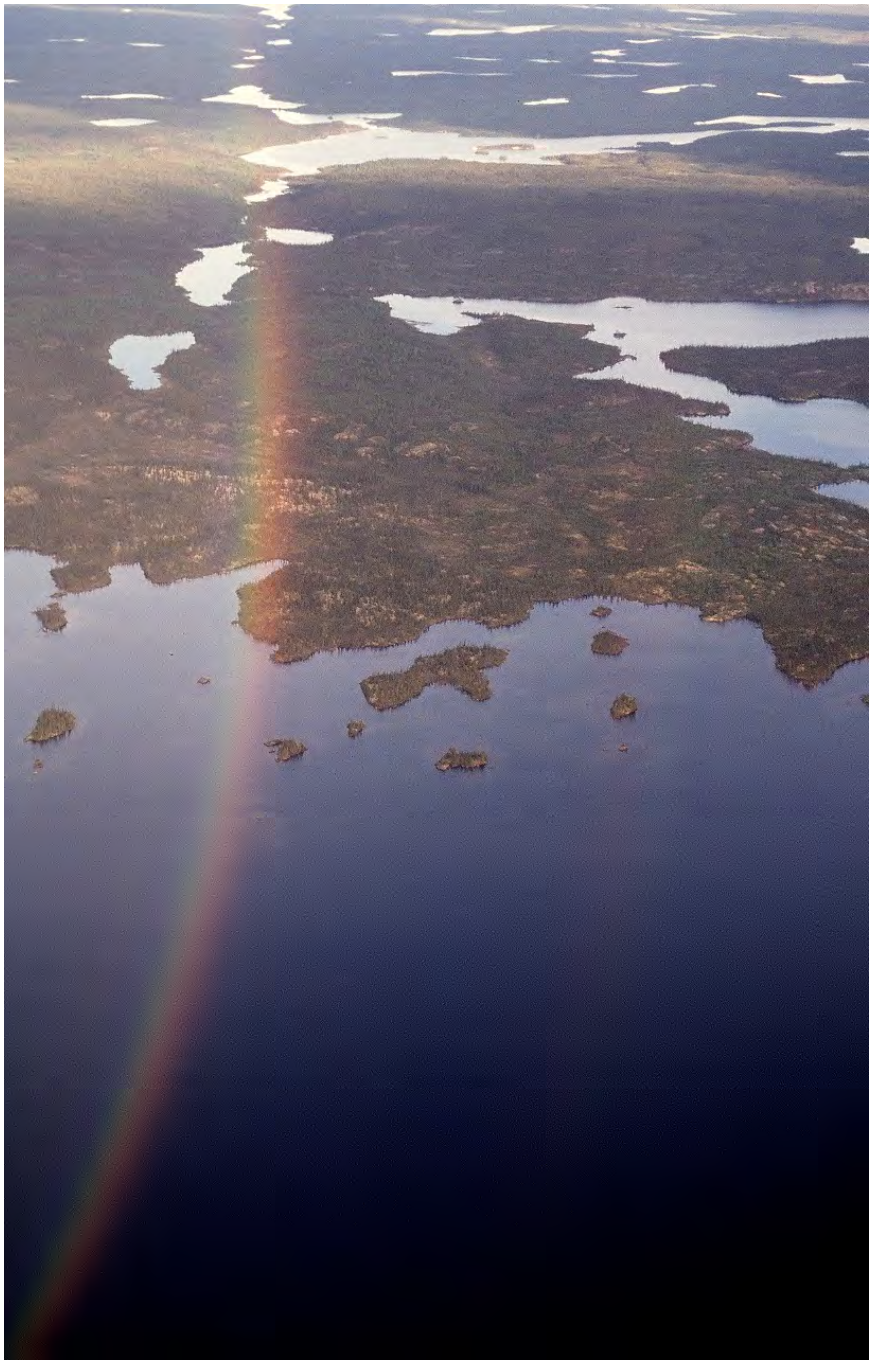
Summering area

19 June 1989

At Yellowknife, Air Tindi had a Weather Service flight scheduled for **1100** hrs., to Fort Reliance (the east end of Great Slave Lake), in an Otter aircraft. The plane had room for one extra person and it was offered to us. We decided that Pat should go because of her lighter weight. Pat of course scanned for eagle signals along the route.

Pat located A-29's transmitter signal near Taltheilei Narrows, on the Pethei Peninsula, East Arm, Great Slave Lake. The flight returned to Yellowknife at **1505** hrs.

We took another flight (thumbing our ride with a geology flight that was headed to the Taltheilei vicinity at**1610** (in La Ronge Beaver). We were able to pinpoint the signal as being west of the marsh, on the slope above the Lake. Returned to Yellowknife at **1822**.



In the evening, Pat and I chartered an Air Tindi flight (Cessna 185 with floats to try to recover Iris's transmitter.

2040 hrs. Airborne. As we flew toward the East Arm of Great Slave Lake, a prominent rainbow appeared in the light showers along our route. It was a strange coincidence: we were looking for Iris' transmitter - Iris is the Greek "Rainbow Messenger of the Gods."

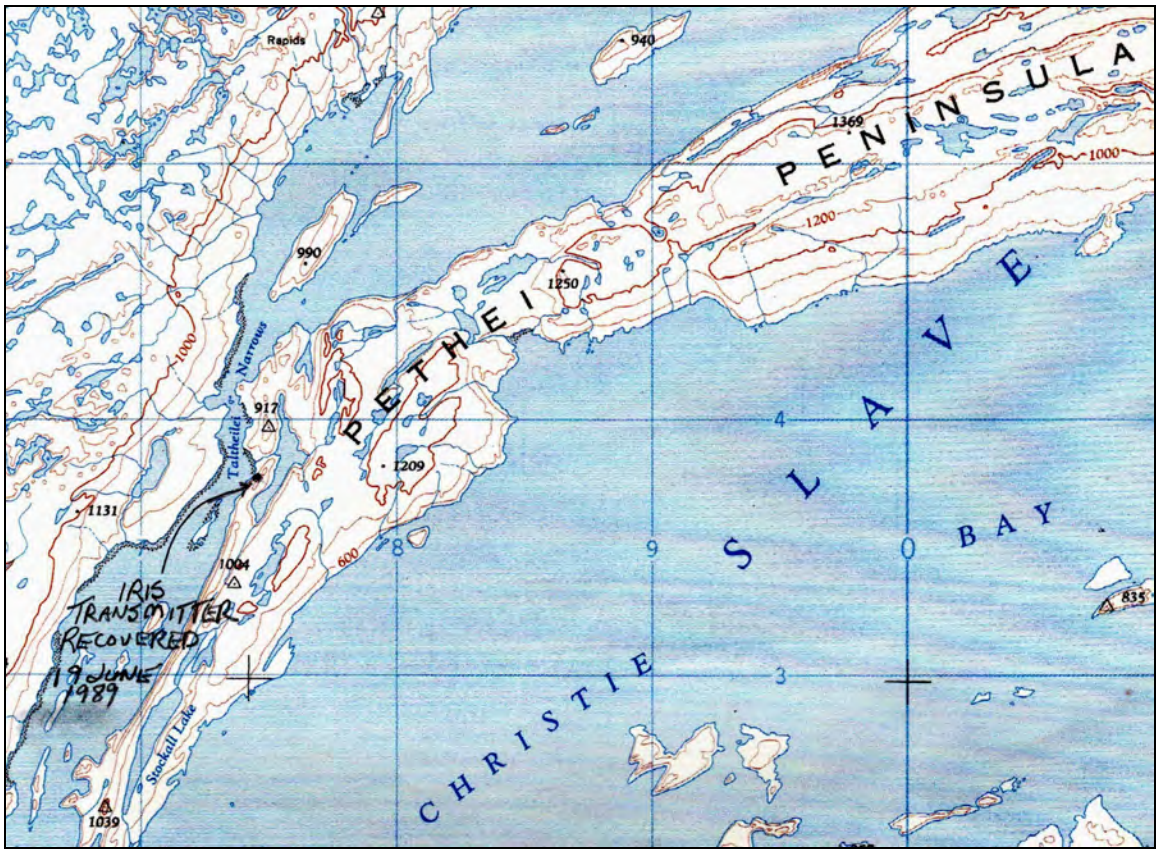
2147 We landed west of Taltheilei Narrows. The pilot had to be very alert; there were slabs of ice still scattered about on the Lake.
2155 We taxied in to shore and tied up
2158 started hiking up the slope, toward the signal in a boulder field.

We found the transmitter in the boulder field, sitting on a lichen bed in a deep gap between boulders as large as cars. A vertical cliff of basalt columns stood above the boulders.
This site was (111.50, 62.57) 3 km southeast of Taltheilei Narrows, 1551 km north of GNP, and 1689 km. North of Iris' wintering area.

Pat with Iris' transmitter attached to a tail feather. Pat is wearing a headnet because of the swarms of biting flies attacking us.

Heading back to the plane at sunset

Pat, back at Yellowknife, examining Iris' transmitter.



Site of Iris' transmitter recovery at Great Slave Lake

Part 10. **Pat's Birds**.

Pat ready to release a Clarke's Nutcracker after rehabilitation, 1973. Pat also rehabilitated an American Kestrel, Common Raven, Gray Jay, and Red-naped Sapsucker. .

After the eagle research projects were completed, Pat spent many hours (during 1992-2020) observing and photographing birds at our West Glacier home (150 Edgar Lane). Suet, seed, and hummingbird feeders were hung on a lodgepole pine ten feet from the livingroom window all feeders were removed when we left and at night. Chokecherry, mountain maple, snowberry, and mountain ash shrubs were nearby. Pat kept detailed notes on bird presence and behavior. She took photos through the livingroom window.

This Wild Turkey appeared on our front porch railing on 25 May 2004. Pat scurried to get her camera and got a couple of shots through the livingroom window. This was the first time we saw this species near our house.

Wild Turkey family passing our front porch, 8 July 2017

Female Ring-necked Pheasants (in the shrubs and difficult to see - one far left, one far right upper, two lower middle), 1 October 1992

Ruffed Grouse, Upper: Gray morph, 4 February 2009;
Lower: Rufous morph, 17 August 2015

Cooper's Hawk perched near the seed feeder, 1 May 1992

Goshawk, 20 November 2003

Pygmy Owl, 9 December 2007

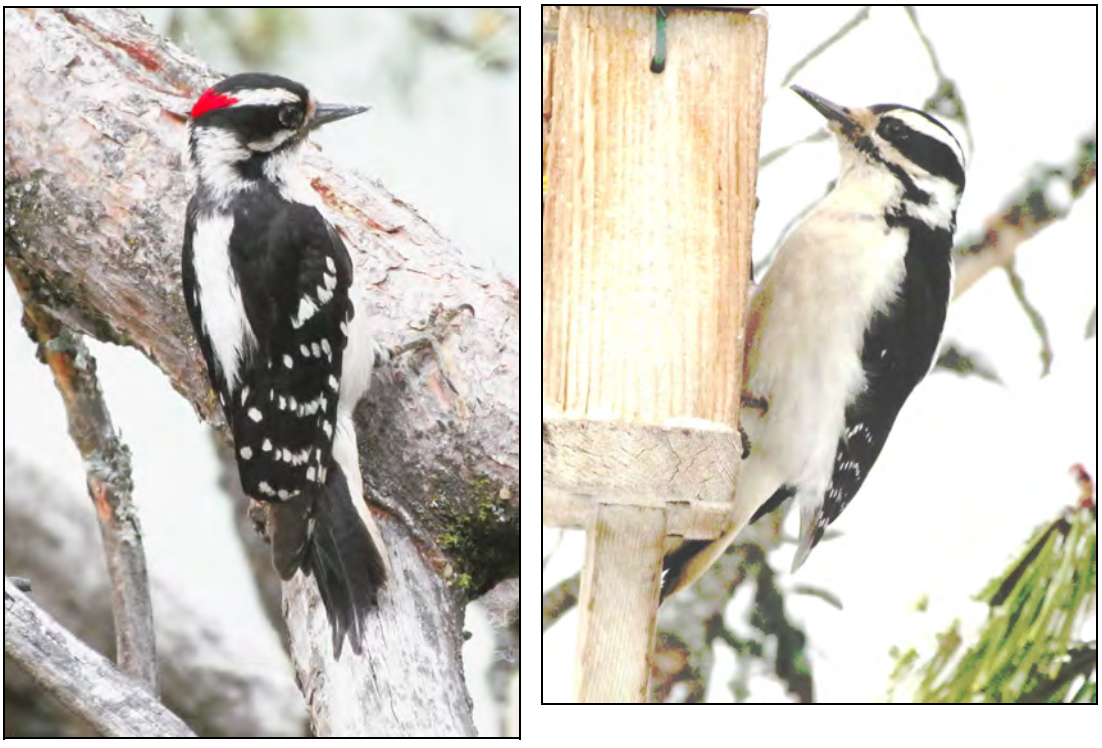
Black-chinned Hummingbird, 25 May 2009

Calliope Hummingbird, 3 August 2018

Rufous Hummingbird, 3 May 2013

Pileated Woodpecker, 17 March 2017

Downey Woodpecker, female, 6 January 2010



Hairy Woodpeckers, Left: male, 20 May 2014; Right: female, 13 March 2014

Northern Flicker, 2 October 2008

Dusky Flycatcher, 21 August 2011

Olive-aided Flycatcher, 21 June 2010

Red-eyed Vireo, 7 August 2018

Cassin's Vireo, 26 August 2017

Warbling Vireo, 5 August 2018

Steller's Jay, 23 August 2006

Eastern Blue Jay, 27 May 2008

Gray Jay, 23 March 2014

Northern Shrike, 10 October 2002

Mountain Chickadee, 28 May 2007

Boreal Chickadee, 22 January 2008

Black-capped Chickadee, 11 June 2005

White-breasted Nuthatch, 30 October 2006

Red-breasted Nuthatch family, 15 May 2010

Brown Creeper, an occasional visitor, 26 December 2017

Varied Thrush, 22 March 2014

Swainson's Thrush, 16 July 2019

American Robin, 26 September 2016

European Starling, 7 March 2011

Gray Catbird, 28 May 2013

Cedar Waxwing, 7 June 2014

Bohemian Waxwings, 1 November 1995

Juvenile Cedar Waxwing, 13 July 2010

Wilson's Warbler, 4 August 2018

Orange-crowned Warbler, 8 July 2018

Yellow-rumped Warbler, 18 May 2018

American Redstart, 22 May 2010

Spotted Towhee, 12 March 2007

Harris Sparrow, 1 November 2009

American Tree Sparrow, 4 April 2008

White-crowned Sparrow, 3 May 2013

White-throated Sparrow, drab phase,7 November 2016

White-throated Sparrow, bright phase, 5 Mar 2010

Fox Sparrow, 25 April 2008

Song Sparrow,11 April 2007

Dark-eyed Junco, 6 April 2010

Western Tanager, male, 14 June 2020

Western Tanager, female, 19 August 2006

Excerpt from p. 539,
Birds of Montana, by Marks, Hendricks, and Casey,
Buteo Books, 2016, 659 pp,

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*)

This enigmatic grassland obligate is well known for periodic invasions outside its core breeding range in the Midwest, which can result in "dramatic year-to-year changes in distribution and abundance, especially in peripheral and sporadically occupied areas" (Temple 2002: 1). Irruptions of Dickcissels into Montana have occurred at least three times since 1920; the most recent was in 2006. The main breeding range encompasses parts of South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. Breeding during irruption years extends north to Saskatchewan and Manitoba, south to s. Texas and s. Louisiana, east to New Jersey and Maryland, and west to the central portions of the Rocky Mt. states from Montana to New Mexico. The core winter range is in the grasslands of Venezuela, with smaller numbers wintering from c. Mexico and the Pacific slope of Central America south to Colombia, Ecuador, the Guianas, and n. Brazil.

Status and Occurrence: Occasional breeding resident on the central and eastern prairies, with about 65 records. The Dickcissel is one of the latest migrants to arrive in the state. The earliest record, and the only one from west of the Continental Divide, was of a female photographed by Pat McClelland at her home near West Glacier on 26 May 2011. Its appearance coincided with a storm that had strong easterly winds. The bird attended a feeder the next day but was not seen again. The latest sighting was by Mike Lesnik in Custer Co. on 30 Aug 2006. The latter record is only the second from Aug, the first being several females and young of the year seen near Miles City by C. F. Hedges on 7 Aug 1921 (Hedges 1924).

Black-headed Grosbeak, 15 June 2011

Evening Grosbeak, 30 May 2011

Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 3 June 2008

Indigo Bunting, 6 June 2020

Snow Bunting, February 1997

Lazuli Bunting, 16 May 2009

Lazuli Bunting, 30 May 2011

Yellow-headed Blackbird, male and female, 12 May 2008

Red-winged Blackbirds, males, 13 April 2013

Red-winged Blackbird, female, 11 May 2013

Brewer's Blackbird, male, 30 May 2010

Brewer's Blackbird, female, 10 April 2008

Brown-headed Cowbird, 7 May 2008

Bullock's Oriole, male, 28 May 2007

Bullock's Oriole, female, 30 May 2011

House Finch, 21 August 2014

House Finch, with partially leucistic head feathers, 2 November 2007

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, 30 March 2008

Cassin's Finch, 26 April 2013

Purple Finch (?), 10 March 2010

Red Crossbills, 12 January 2009

White-winged Crossbill, 11 January 2009

Pine Grosbeak, 10 November 2012, eating snowberry fruits

American Goldfinch, 25 May 2011

American Goldfinches, L: female; R: male, 17 May 2020

Common Redpoll, 5 March 2011

Pine Siskin,, 4 September 2010

Mourning Dove, 24 March 2007 (the only time we saw the species at our home); it was outside the front window for about ten seconds

Stepping onto the outside porch, Pat could photograph birds along the River

Great Blue Heron, hidden in the cottonwoods, 17 April 2012

:

Common Ravens, 12 December 2010

Bald Eagle, 4 December 2011

Golden Eagle, 27 March 2012

10A. Other animals Pat photographed at or near the bird feeder tree

Snowshoe Hare, 17 April 2013

Meadow Vole?, 9 March 2013

Red Squirrel, 29 May 2011

Northern Flying Squirrel, 31 May 2006

Yellow-pine Chipmunk, 25 August 2006

Melanistic Chipmunk, 7 June 2012

Columbian Ground Squirrel, 12 July 2015

American Marten,(seconds after the marten had killed the Red Squirrel), on our porch, 20 June 2022

Northern Raccoon, 1 October 2006

Striped Skunk, 15 My 2022

American Black Bear outside the livingroom window, 26 June 2010

Black Bear peering in our living room window, 30 July 2013

Mule Deer, 31 May 2012

White-tailed Deer fawn, 22 August 2006

Pat was fond of reptiles and amphibians. This is Tee's photo of Pat with a garter snake. Several garter snakes lived under the outdoor stairs to our front porch at West Glacier (150 Edgar Lane).

The following observations/photos were made by Pat, from our front porch:

Elk In the Middle Fork River, May 1992

Elk on the West Glacier Golf Course, May 2002. Elk are hazed from the GC now. Hazing, plus other substantial habitat loss, has led to a disappearance of these views

Elk on a Middle Fork island, below our house, May 1995 (what we used to see almost daily in spring and fall)

Elk crossing Middle Fork, observed from our porch, 21 April 1996

Elk crossing the Middle Fork, at dusk, May 1995

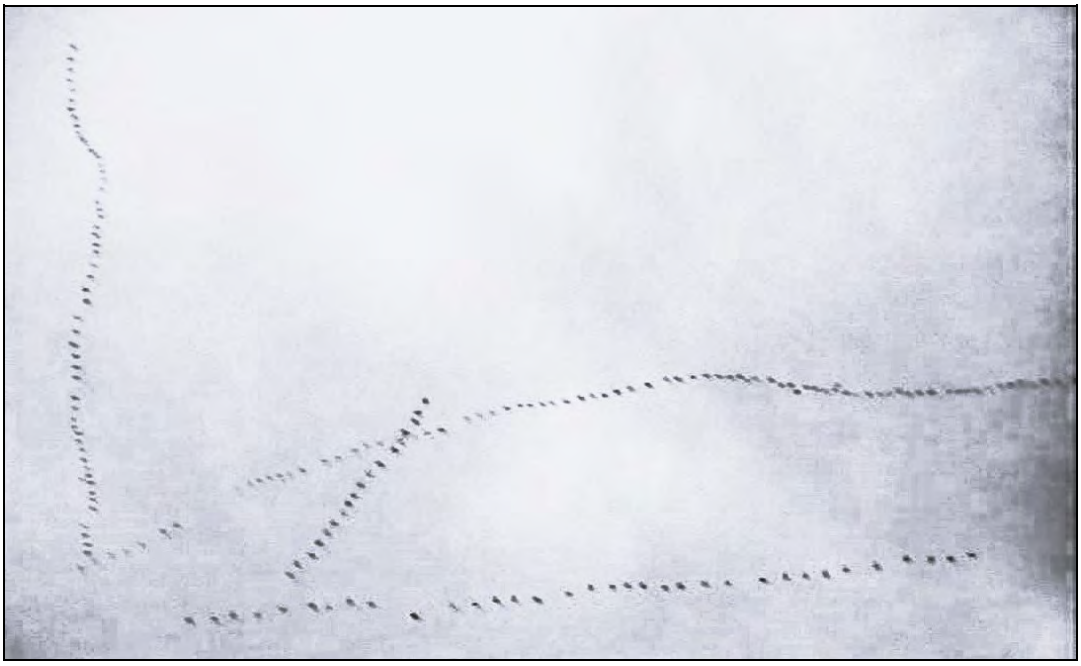
Elk below our house, 4 May 1996 (the site is now occupied by a house)

Moose observed below our house, observed from our porch, 28 May 1998

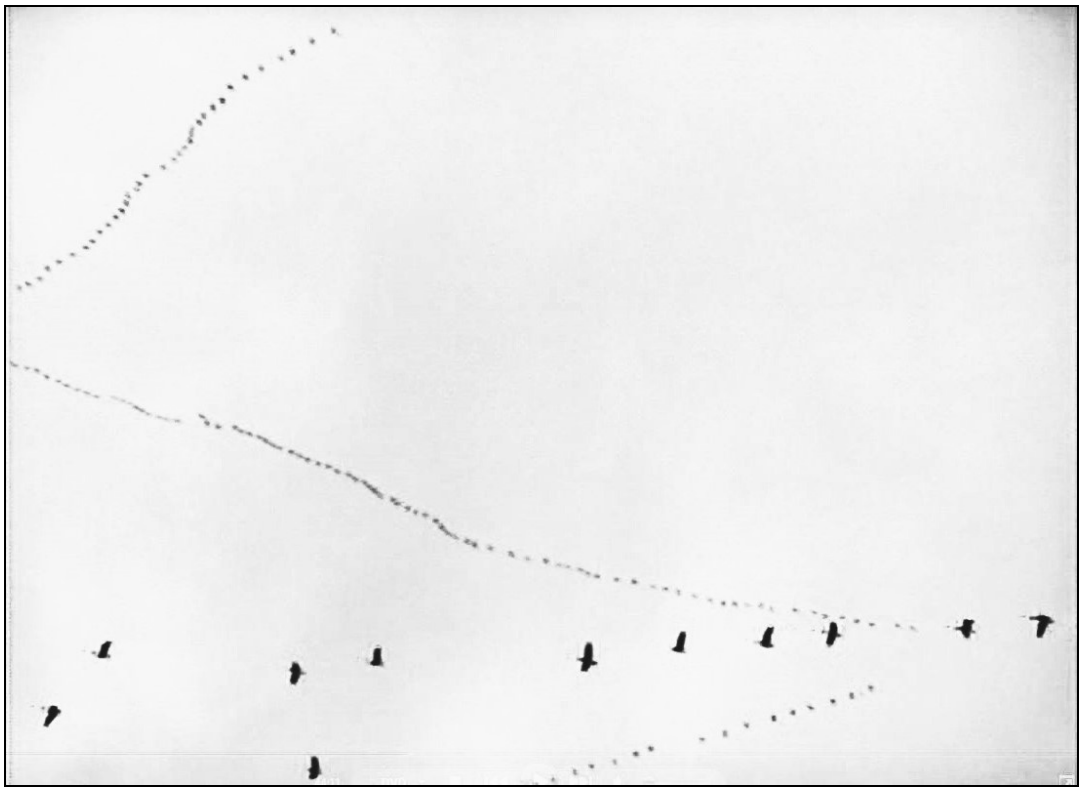
Grizzly Bear observed along the Middle Fork, seen from our porch, 2 May 1999

10B. Waterfowl Migration

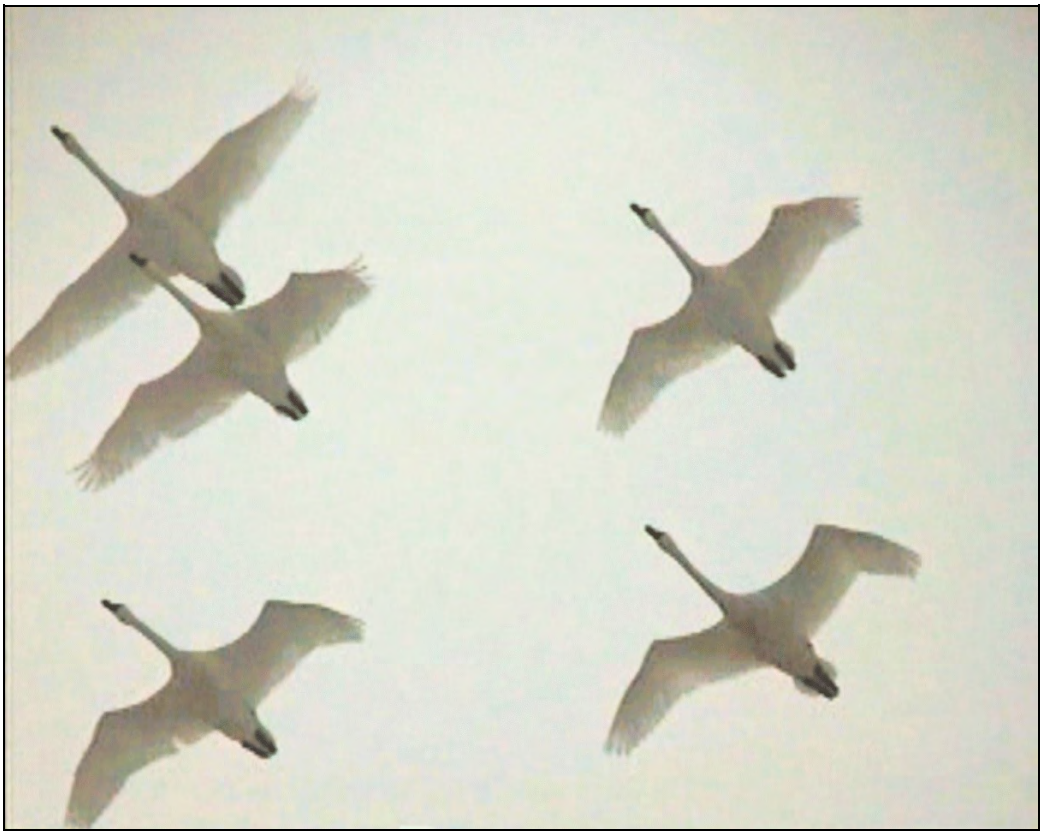
On the morning of 9 November 1995, from in the house, Pat and I heard vocalizations of geese going over, before sunrise. As soon as we had visibility, we began counting waterfowl on their southward migration from Canada. We counted from our front porch, in West Glacier. During nine and 10 November, large flocks passed one after another.



Most flocks were so high it was not possible to identify species of ducks. Lower groups included Mallards, Common Mergansers, and Goldeneyes. The groups shown here were mixtures of Canada Geese and ducks. Some groups were above the clouds and we could only hear them



Swans (totaling 141) came low over our house. They probably had spent the night on Lake McDonald.



Tundra Swans and Trumpeter Swans identified themselves with their vocalizations

Only Canada Geese in this group

From our porch, Pat (obviously amazed at the tally) and I counted 8,609 migrating ducks, geese, and swans during 9-10 Nov 1995

The number of waterfowl we saw in subsequent autumn migrations never approached what we had seen in Fall 1995.

Spring migrations that we saw always had much lower numbers than Autumn counts. Subadult Canada Geese usually go north much later than the primary spring migration. These subadults were photographed heading north on 23 May 1996

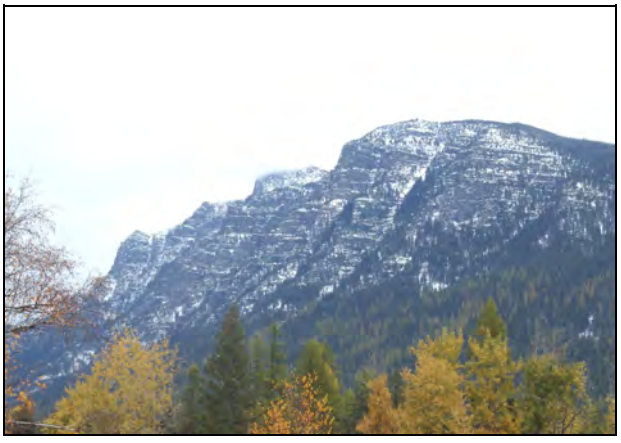
Golden Eagle Migration

Pat played a major role in the study of the raptor migration route in Glacier National Park. This migration corridor was first reported by Biologist Elaine Caton, on 15 October 1997. She had hiked up the Mt. Brown Trail to monitor Bald Eagles on which we had attached a radio transmitter. Elaine noted many Golden Eagles flying from Stanton Mountain to Mount Brown on their southward migration.

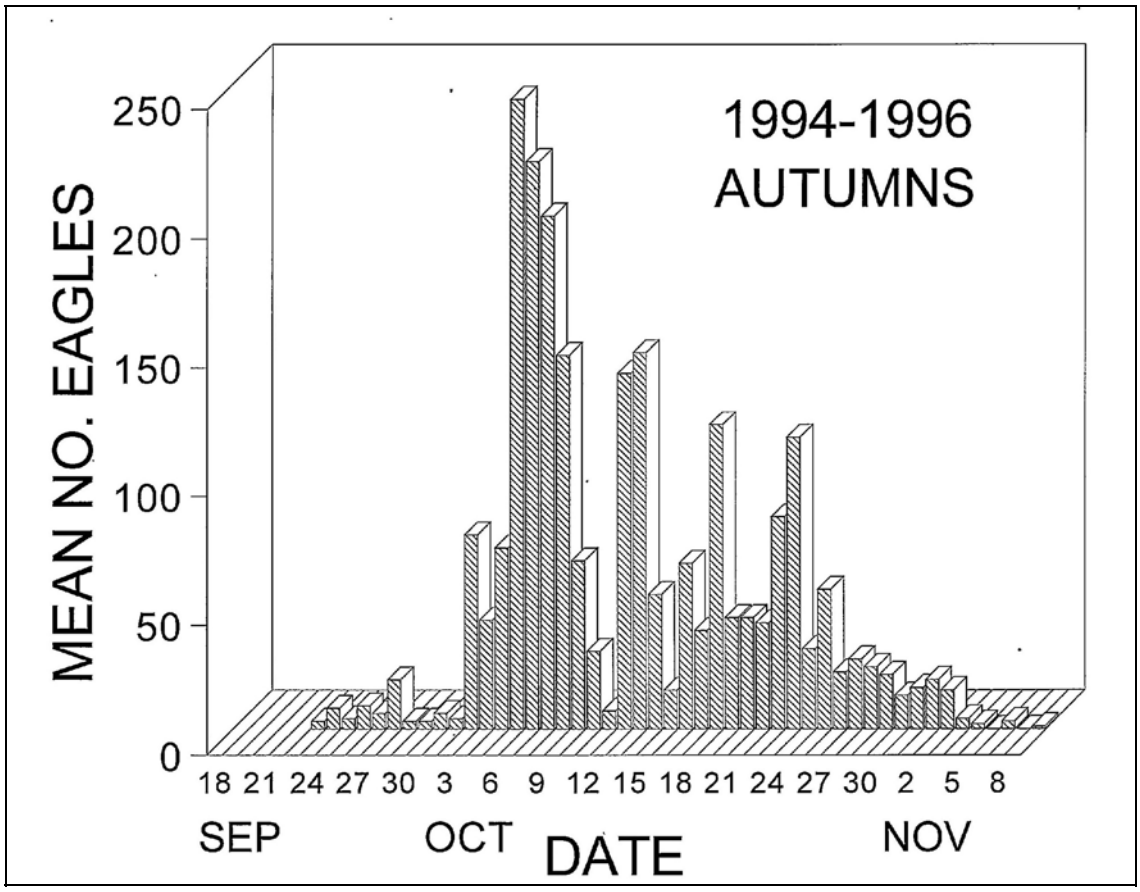
In following days of October 1987, and Autumns 1988-1992, intermittent observations by Elaine, Rick Yates, Pat and Riley McClelland, Becky Williams, Steve Gniadek, and several others indicated a substantial number of Golden Eagles and other raptors were using this route. For example, on 15 October 1989, in 30 minutes (17:00 to 17:30) Pat counted 45 Goldens, 19 of which were in a "group," arriving at Mt. Brown nearly simultaneously. On 11 October 1990, she counted 140 Goldens in 73 minutes (14:55-16:08). The Goldens were on their way from summering areas in Canada to wintering grounds to the south, as far as northern Mexico.

The primary counting site was in a parking area near the Lake McDonald Lodge. Eagles traveling from Stanton Mountain (below left) to Mount Brown (below right) were easily spotted from this site unless low clouds or stormy weather interfered. This is the valley site from which numbers were reported. A study was planned to begin in 1994, with a schedule of substantially more observation time. The results of three Autumns (1994-1996) and two Springs (1995-1996), were reported in our paper ("The influence of weather on Golden Eagle migration in northwestern Montana," by Richard E. Yates, B. Riley McClelland, Patricia T. McClelland, Carl H. Key, and Robert E. Bennetts. Journal of Raptor Research 35(2):81)-90). Cumulative totals from 506 hours of observation were 7,131 Golden Eagles, 427 Bald Eagles, 1,065 eagles (unidentified species), 422 accipiters, 201 buteos, and 23 falcons.

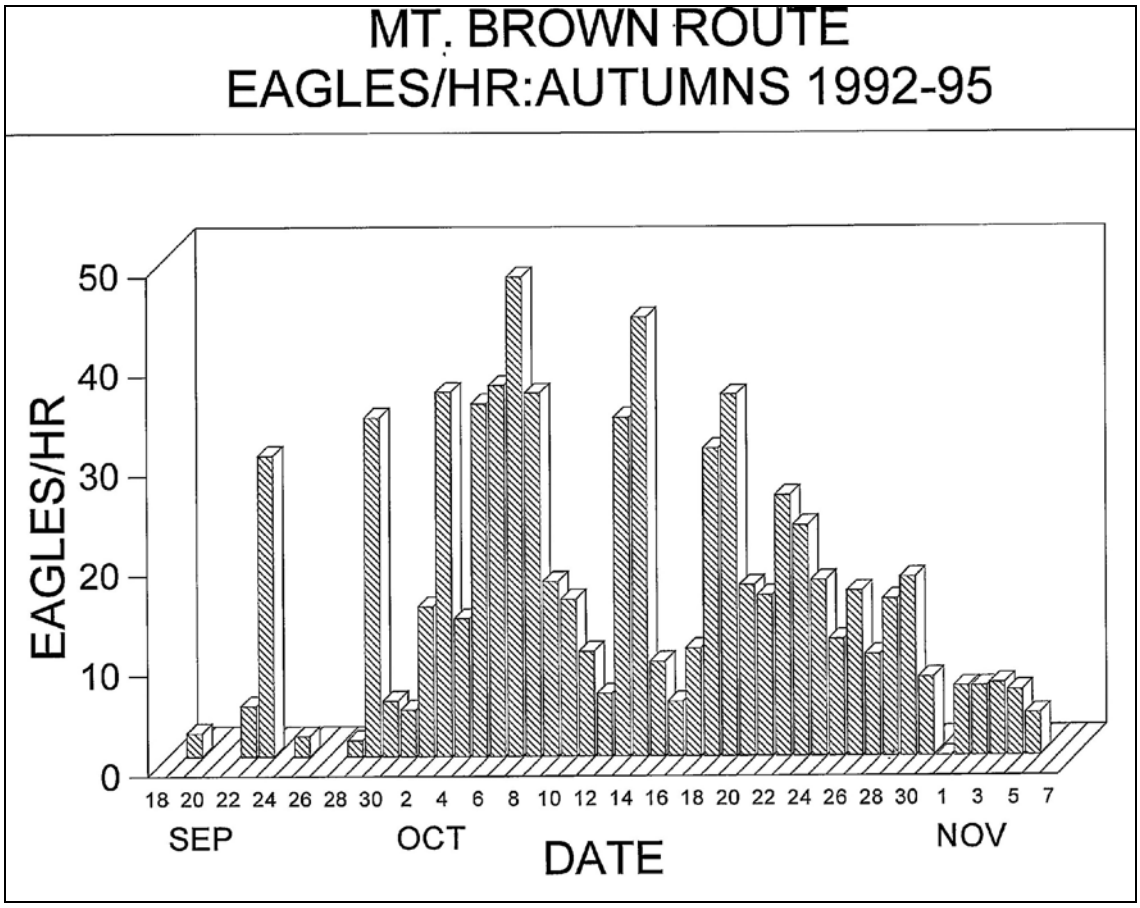
Autumn 1996 produced our highest total count of Golden Eagles: 2,249. The maximum passage rate of eagles per hour in Autumn was 137 Goldens, on 6 October 1994. The Spring maximum was 67, on 17 March 1995.



Stanton Mountain . Mount Brown
viewed from the counting site near Lake McDonald Lodge



Mean number of Golden Eagles observed on the Mt. Brown route in three Autumns



Golden Eagles, passage rates (mean number per hour) on the Mt. Brown migration route Autumns 1992-1995

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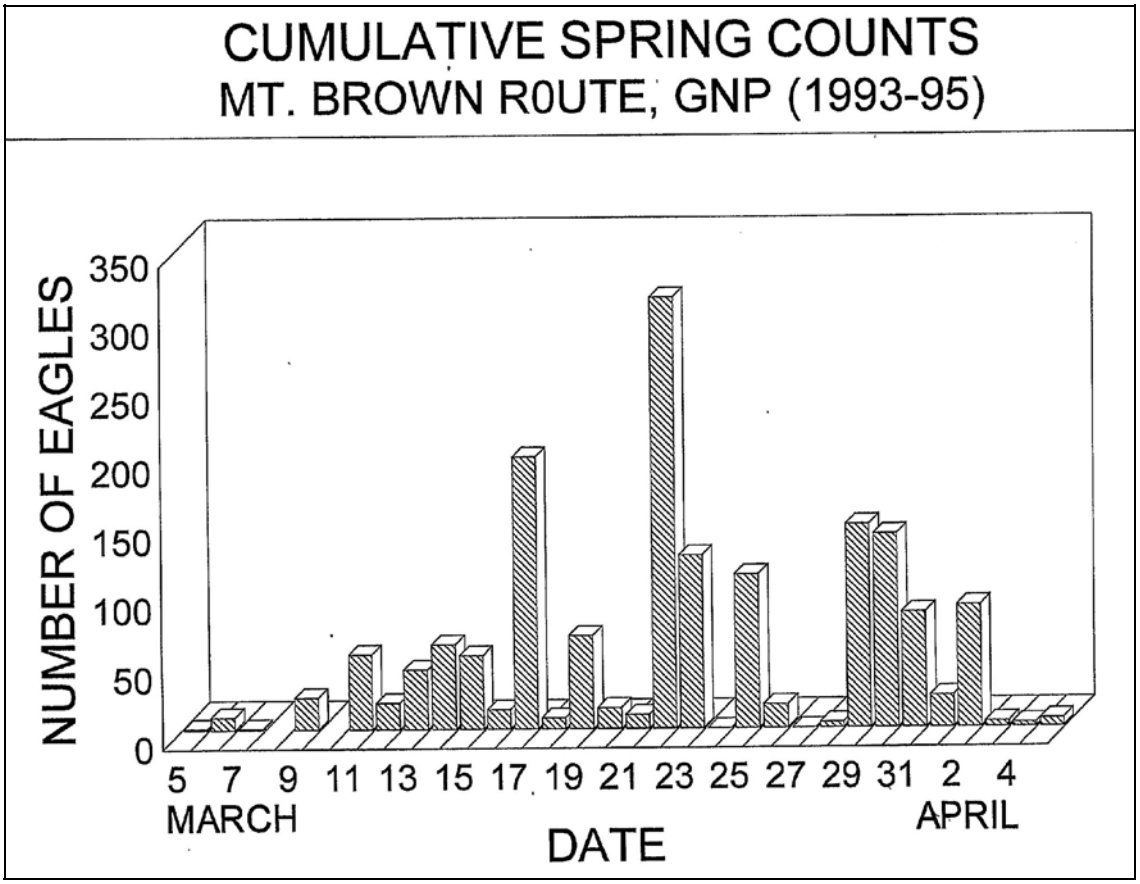


Mean number of Golden Eagles on the Mt. Brown to Stanton Mtn. Route, 1993-1995
We counted fewer numbers of eagles in Spring, compared to Autumn (about one-third).

When weather conditions prevented migration on the Mt. Brown route, some eagles chose alternate routes. We observed this route modification on 18 March 1990 when Pat and I were on Glacier View Mountain. There were low clouds all along the Mt. Brown route. In three hours, we counted 56 Golden Eagles and 9 Bald Eagles on their northward migration, flying from Huckleberry Mountain past Glacier View Mountain and north up the North Fork of the Flathead River. It also is possible that this route would have been taken by these eagles even if the Mt. Brown route were available (e.g., different destinations). More research would be needed to answer that question.

The counting site near Lake McDonald Lodge was the best site for seeing the maximum number of eagles on the Mt. Brown route. However, a more interesting observation site (but with a more restricted view for counting) was on the Mt. Brown trail, near where Elaine had first made her observation. At this point, less than a mile from the Mt. Brown Fire Lookout structure, many passing eagles were relatively close to the observer. A few were very close.

Most eagles did not get very close to observers. They found updrafts a distance from the Mt. Brown Trail site. On good days, eagles formed kettles in the updraft. This photo shows only two eagles, but Pat counted as many as seventeen kettling together

A juvenile Golden Eagle below the Mt, Brown counting site. On favorable weather days, in the fall (mostly in October), the migrating eagles arriving at Stanton Mountain searched for updrafts on the south side of the peak, gained elevation if successful, gliding across the McDonald Valley to Mt. Brown. They repeated the updraft search on the south side of Mt. Brown, and continued this sequence south until evening, or when the updrafts and favorable winds ceased

Most Goldens were not close enough for a good photo at the Mt. Brown trail viewing site. This one came within 50 feet of Pat, 9 October 2000

After the pass near us, the Golden veered off to continue its southward migration

Pat and Becky Williams, heading down the Mt. Brown trail after a day of counting migrating Golden Eagles, 10 October 2005

Part 11: Bird trips and safaris to Florida Everglades, Churchill (Manitoba), Tanzania, The Gambia, Costa Rica, Grand Canyon, Puerto Vallarta (Mexico), Australia, Borneo, Namibia, Rwanda, Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
Family
Final Days at Home, Obituary

After Pat's GNP Bald Eagle research and Masters Degree had been completed, Pat began a series of wildlife observation trips abroad, mostly in Africa.

Pat's Travel Abroad					
YEAR	DATES	DESTINATION	SPONSOR	LEADERS	ROOMMATE
1990	10/29- 11/10	Churchill (Manitoba) - Polar Bear Observations	University of Montana	Dr. Chuck Jonkel	Becky Williams
2000	3/26-4/8	Florida Everglades	independent	various	Becky Williams
2001	1/22-2/7	Tanzania	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Becky Williams
2001	10/31- 11/17	The Gambia	Dr. Jeff Marks	Jeff Marks	Harriet Marble
2004	4/4-4/12	Costa Rica	Flathead Land Trust	various	Becky Williams
2004	11/6- 11/13	Grand Canyon Phantom Ranch	Xanterra Parks & Resorts	Marsha Hicks	Karin Connelly
2006	2/8-2/25	The Great Migration, Serengeti	Steve Turner	Tom Nicholls Steve Turner	Karin Connelly
2007	1/21-2/9	Tanzania Safari	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly

2008	1/23-2/9	The Best of Tanzania Wildlife	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly
2008	11/7-11/22	Australia	Kingfisher Tours MT Audubon	various	Mary Griffith, Larry, Becky Williams
2009	6/16-7/5	Borneo	Field Guides	Rose Ann Rowlett	Harriet Marble
2010	4/24-5/13	Namibia and the Skeleton Coast	Overseas Adventure Travel	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly
2011	1/27-2/14	Tanzania Conservation, Culture, and Wildlife Safari	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly
2011	6/17-6/28	Alaska Bird Trip	Montana Audubon	Lou Bruno & others	Becky Williams
2012	3/28-4/11	Puerto Vallarta, El Tuito, Mexico Rancho Primavera	independent	Steve & Ruth Turner	Harriet Marble
2013	1/19-2/4	The Best of Tanzania National Parks	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly
2015	1/16-2/7	Tanzania with Rwanda extension - the Amahora Gorilla Group in Virunga Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda	Thompson Safaris	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly
2016	3/21-4/1	Ultimate Africa Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe Elephantback Safari, Victoria Reserve	Overseas Adventure Travel	Nicholls & Stoltz	Karin Connelly

Churchill Polar Bear Group trip, with the igloo they built, November 1990
1-Dr. Chuck Jonkel, 2-Becky Williams, 3-Pat McClelland, 4-Mary Wilson, 5-Elaine Caton

Polar Bear on the outskirts of Churchill, Manitoba,
photo by Pat McClelland, November 1990.

2007 Tanzania Safari
L-R: Karin Connelly, Tanzanian guide, Pat McClelland, Tom Nicholls, Leslie Stoltz, Tanzanian guide, Hashim Kindu (guide)

Pat holding sway in the field, 2007 Africa (Tanzania) Safari

Ten Safari participants (including Pat McClelland, Karin Connelly, and Becky Williams) combined resources to finance Hashim Kindu's two-year course at the Tanzania Wildlife Management School. His total cost was about $11,000. That qualified Hashim for better jobs.

Hashim Kindu at graduation from Tanzania Wildlife Management School
Hashim guided several of the Nicholls/Stoltz trips
(sponsored by Thompson Safaris)

Final night of the 2007 Safari, Camp Hostesses and Pat McClelland celebrate (Pat actually is smiling).

TOM'S 2007 SAFARI

(To tune of "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain")

It's TOM's latest Safari, give a cheer!
The 2007 Group has gathered, JAMBO, we're all here.
We're true birds of a feather, cuz he's kept us altogether
Sharing wildlife wisdom every time that he appears!

Now dear LESLIE's next, so what is there to say?
She's the one who'll always, always make your day.
With a smile upon her face, still she keeps us at our pace,
And we wish for her a future bright and gay.

Is it PAT that I see crouching over there?
Finding birds and bugs and critters to compare.
Sharing knowledge with us all, she's little but stands tall,
She's a trip companion really truly rare.

Where's STEVE? I think he's just landed on his head!
But his falls and tumbles never put him in the bed.
He takes it in his stride, doesn't let it hurt his pride,
Though I think his face is just a little red!

Our new friend TONY is a cop extraordinaire
But he claims he doesn't wash his underwear!
And with his Pop LUD by his side, and a twinkle in his eye,
These two are lots of fun for any day's ride.

DEBBIE'S camera's broken, it's quite beyond repair
But she smiles throughout, as if without a care.
And although she travels 1st class, she's none the less a real blast
And fun through any weather foul or fair.

FAIN's the one that's always quick to share
Her photographic skills and homeopathic wares.
Meanwhile NANCY's going shopping; she's always up for stopping
Finding treasures that are far beyond compare!

Karin Connelly's poem, 2007 Safari

L-R, Front row: Judy Smith, Harriet Marble, Pat McClelland, local guide, Mary Ann Faruque;
Back row: David Smith, Dean Townsend, Maggie Townsend, Marcel Holyoak, Rose Ann Rowlett (Field Guides Leader),

.

Pat’s photo of Rhinos.

Touched by a Mountain Gorilla

as told to Mary T. McClelland by Pat McClelland

The morning of February 4, 2015, was cloudy and it looked like it was going to rain. I was excited, yet trying to be cautious about expectations of what we would see. I was very focused on being properly prepared and organized and alert to my surroundings as I had every day, but today was very special. Our safari group had been looking forward to this morning for two wonderful weeks during our adventures in protected Wildlands of northern Tanzania national parks.

The most special of the many magical places we visited in Rwanda (pronounced 'Ronda', as there is no 'w' sound in the Kinyarwanda language), the home of the only living mountain gorillas in the world.

Our group was staying in the Mountain Gorilla View Lodge, traveling with Thomson Safaris. I was in cabin #32, with Karin Connelly. The cabins are nestled on the jungle edge, in an unobtrusive manner, respectful of the surrounding natural area. When I stepped outside, into the fresh warm air, the sounds of Nature were enthralling and invigorating. We were truly in another world.

After eating breakfast, our gorilla observation group (eight people plus a guide and several porters) gathered to load into our tour vehicles. Our guide and our porters began the drive (about two hours) to the mountain trail in Volcanoes National Park. It was like a dream. I was in a trance of anticipation and wonder at this amazing landscape of lush and unfamiliar vegetation.

We passed through the Village of Musanze, mostly inhabited by locals native to the area, many employed by the eco-industry protecting the mountain gorilla habitat. As we drove through the village, I couldn't help noticing the stark poverty. And still, the people seemed so friendly. Children ran to greet us as we passed through, reaching out with their gigantic smiles. Our visit helps support this community of people and the community of wildlife.

Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda is home to the rare mountain gorilla (*Gorilla beringei beringei*), living in a fragile environment. The mountain gorilla (a total of about 700) survives only in small portions of montane forests in NW Rwanda, SW Uganda, and eastern Congo. The foraging sites we saw were full of tropical shrubbery and intermediate sized trees with gigantic leaves.

At the Trailhead, our guide (his name was Patience) gave us an introduction and reviewed the extraordinarily important rules to follow while observing any gorillas we might encounter. With our guide leading, and our porters carrying our packs and tugging our hands to get us up the hills, we headed up the trail through dense forest. We were in search of gorillas that would be readying for an afternoon nap, and whose general location had been

noted earlier in the day by trackers. Trackers 'rate' the difficulty of trekking to the active gorilla sites the tracker has found. Tracking is a full time job, not just for the tourism, but more importantly for the protection of the gorillas from poachers.

There were six active gorilla family groups that potentially might be accessible for public view on this day. The gorillas' families move much of the time, from easy, moderate, difficult access points. The trackers rate the difficulty of access and a site is chosen for the guide to try to reach with his safari group. Each gorilla family (troupe) can be observed for no more than one hour each day (in the middle of the day, the resting time), to limit potential disturbance.

The trail was a very steep grade of slippery, red-clay mud. We experienced rain showers during the hike; staying upright was more of a challenge than getting wet. My porter (Deo) held my hand and practically pulled me up the trail. Even with that assistance, I was greatly winded and heart racing. Conditions made the trek exceptionally strenuous.

At last we arrived at a level widening of the trail, where our gorilla family was beginning to make preparations for their afternoon naps. They make these nests twice a day and it is the time when the gorillas are least active (easier to observe and less likely to be disturbed by people).

Suddenly, our trekking group could see, scattered around us, first one gorilla, then another, then others in front of us, above us in the trees, and adjacent to us in lower trees. Most were pulling off leaves and branches, to make nests. After making and straightening their leafy beds, they would yawn, lay down, roll around, and scratch lazily, stirring and dozing. We could see three of the four silverback males in the group. The guide told us that the dominant silverback was more than forty years old. There were a mother and her nursing youngster and several middle-aged adults as well as juveniles. Their aging is similar to humans, but the young become independent at about three years old. The groups have strong family ties.

I was struck by the facial expressions - so human-like, especially the mother and her baby. This gorilla group is habituated and has been studied for thirty years. They currently had seventeen in the troupe. All have names and individual personalities.

I was struggling to take photos around the taller people in my tour group and so I asked our guide if I could go a little way up an embankment about ten feet from the rest of the people so that I might be able to photograph at the same eye level as the others. With his permission, I went about ten feet from the group and about six feet up to a grassy embankment about ten square feet void of large shrubs and right up against the 'edge' of the dense jungle vegetation. It was a rather steep embankment at about a fifty-degree slope

(even steeper behind where I was sitting).

I couldn't see into the vegetation, but I could see over it into the forest. I sat with my legs curled and feet to the side. I did not have my hat on so that I could have maximum peripheral vision. I was about eye level with the people standing below.

There began a tussling and rustling and commotion coming down the slope behind me. I mentioned it quietly to our guide (Patience). He acknowledged he had heard it too and he cautioned that I should sit very still. Something was coming down straight at us, and there I sat on the embankment, trying not to move.

Suddenly, nearby there was a big crash in the bush behind me. As the noise began to abate, I felt light pressure on my shoulder. Without moving my head at all, I shifted my focus to my left shoulder and saw four fat and hairy black fingers with huge fingernails, cupping my shoulder. It was the right hand of a mountain gorilla, resting firmly on my left shoulder. I still recall the contrast between the fingernails and the fingers. The nails were so much lighter in color.

I said in a quiet voice to Patience: "I have a hand on my arm." I didn't need to be told, but he said "sit very still." Seconds that seemed like minutes passed before the out-of-control youngster regained his footing, pushed off of my shoulder, and passed behind me. He continued on through the forest covering until he reached an opening. Then, he and a companion playfully scrambled on down the slope to the trail and beyond. When he moved his hand from my shoulder, there was an imprint of four chubby finger marks left by the moisture on his hand (from the wet brush) he had been tumbling through. I had been touched by a mountain gorilla!

Patience surmised the young gorilla was going to run into me if he didn't stop himself by putting his hand out to help make a turn. He had pivoted from my shoulder to go around me. **Or**, had he been completely surprised at this little silver-haired human sitting on his hill, available to break his fall**?**

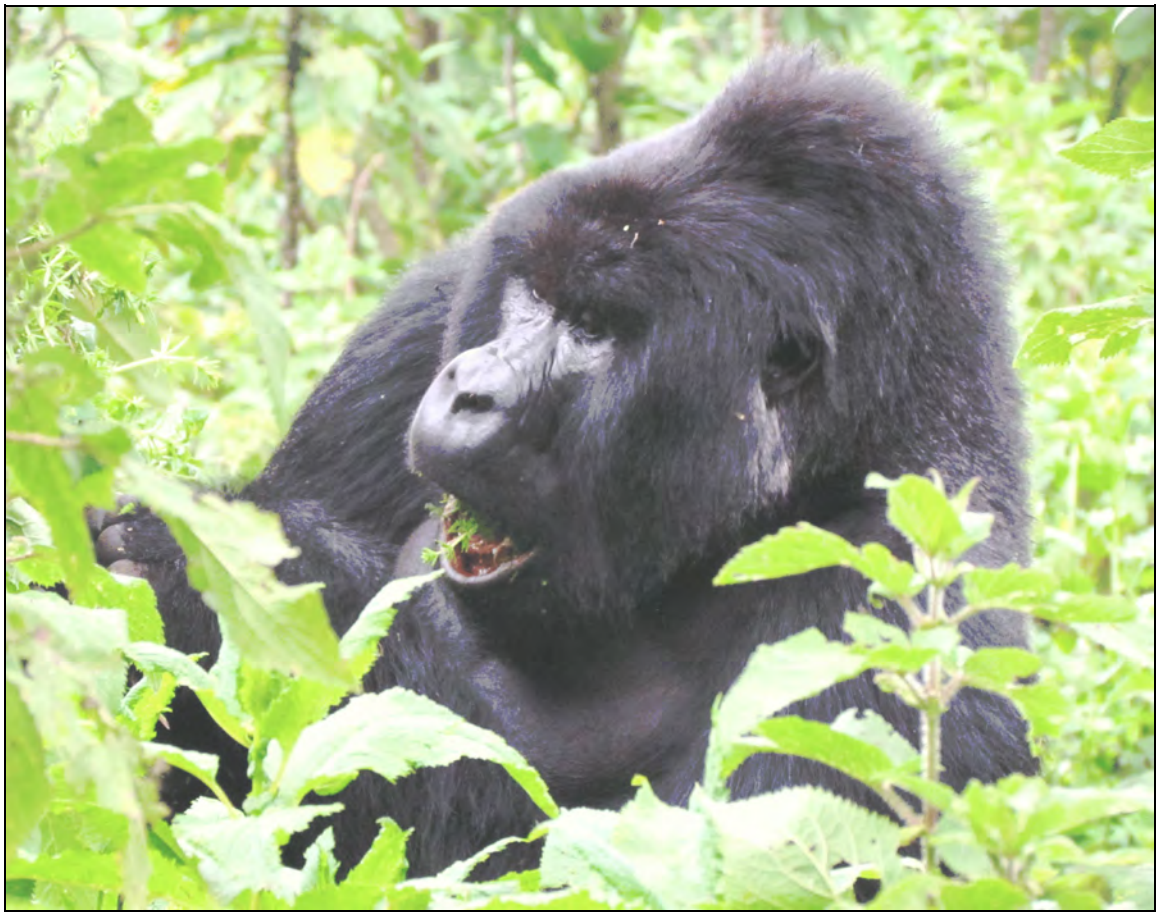
When our hour was up, it was time to go and our guide wasted no time getting out of the way of the gorilla family. We followed Patience as he cut a path for us with a machete. The new route was being established to avoid the silver backs that were beginning to wake up and roam around close to the path. Patience was trying to avoid any sort of confrontation with the silverback, just as we might with a grizzly in Montana. We joined the trail farther down. I found out my guardian gorilla had a name: 'Berwa,' meaning 'to be proud' in the native Kinyarwanda language. Berwa had given me a magical experience.

Volcanoes National Park

Rwanda, Africa

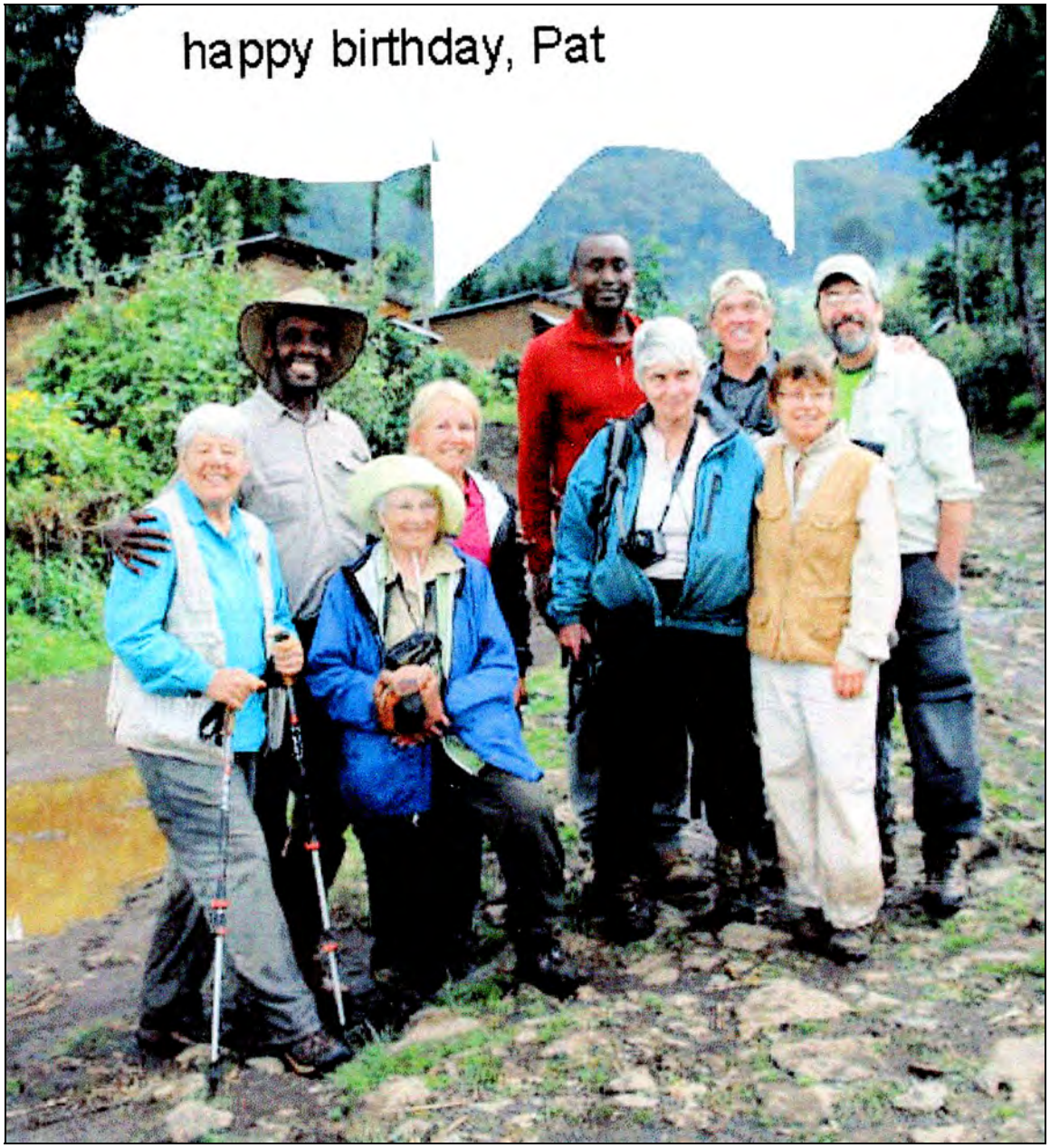
4 February 2015

Card designed by Mary T. McClelland, to commemorate Pat's experience with Berwa, a young gorilla who put his hand on Pat's shoulder.

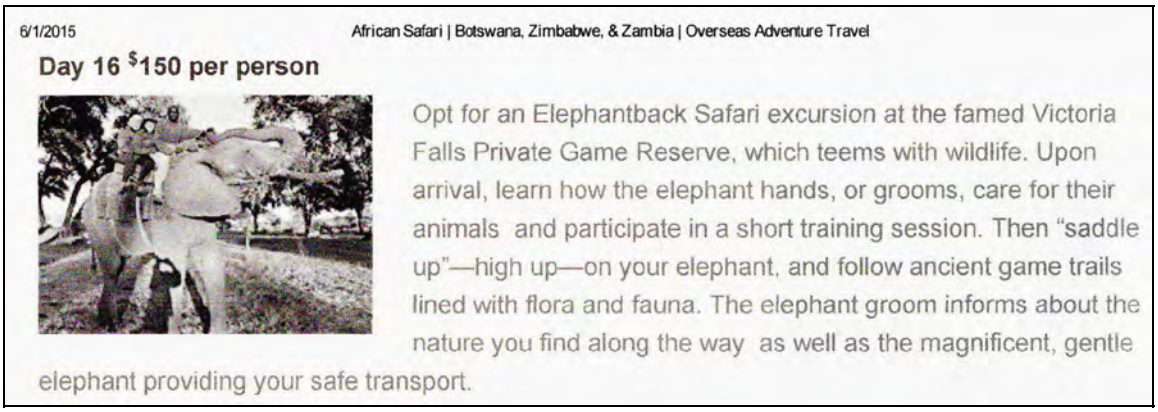


Male Gorilla in Rwanda, 4 February 2015, Photo by Pat McClelland

Pat's final trip to Africa came in 2016, celebrating her birthday and a splendid conclusion - a trip to Victoria Falls and a safari ride on an elephant at a rehabilitation game Reserve in Zimbabwe.



Africa Safari, 24 March 2016
Bottom row, L-R: Karin Connelly, Pat McClelland, Cathy Ream, Leslie Stoltz
Back row: Zimbabwean men are Ranger Guides


6/1/2015
African Safari | Botswana, Zimbabwe, & Zambia | Overseas Adventure Travel
Day 16 $150 per person
Opt for an Elephantback Safari excursion at the famed Victoria Falls Private Game Reserve, which teems with wildlife. Upon arrival, learn how the elephant hands, or grooms, care for their animals and participate in a short training session. Then "saddle up"—high up—on your elephant, and follow ancient game trails lined with flora and fauna. The elephant groom informs about the nature you find along the way as well as the magnificent, gentle elephant providing your safe transport.

Pat on an elephant named "Tusker," on a safari at the Victoria Falls Game Reserve, Zimbabwe, 10 April 2016.

19 July 2022

Greetings to all of you fellow travelers to Tanzania and beyond,

Tom and I want to share news of Pat McClelland's passing. Pat was a beloved fellow traveler on many of our shared journeys in Africa. She touched many lives and will be remembered for her most curious wonder of the natural world. Always ready with her camera, binoculars, and notebook she discovered and recorded something new and different, for her, every day of each adventure. If we had the opportunity to experience a familiar place or bird or animal behavior, she enjoyed that just as profoundly.

Ernest Hemingway said it best, "I never knew of a morning in Africa when I woke up and was not happy." This is exactly how we think Pat felt on all of the safaris she shared with us. That is the way we will always remember her.

Thanks to all of you for participating in these most precious shared experiences. Looking back on photos and memories of our trips together, we recognize what remarkable opportunities we shared in the best of times.

Tutaonana Baadaye (See you sometime soon, we hope).

Leslie and Tom

Ultimate Africa Safari, 2016

Curious Pat, Tanzania, 2013

2008 roommates!

always searching

Zambia, 2016

Celebrating Pat's safari life, Tom & Leslie

“The door to the Pine woods is the door to a temple." Mary Oliver

FAMILY - CHILDREN

Pat, Riley, and children, 11 November 2014. L-R: Terence, Mary Teresa, Kevin, Kerry, Jane, Pat, Riley, and Wonder Dog Dobie

GRANDCHILDREN

Pat and Granddaughter Cali McClelland Beeson, with three dogs, Garry Lookout, 16 March 2015

Pat and Granddaughter Montana McClelland Beeson, with Dobie, Middle Fork Bridge, 13 March 2016

Pat and Granddaughter April Mae McClelland (now Koralewski), with Dobie and Shybo, Garry Lookout Trail, 23 July 2012

Pat and Grandson Brandon Riley McClelland, with Dobie, Middle Fork Bridge, 11 April 2017

Pat working on her Mother's Day Garden, 30 May 2021.

Pat's final Christmas, 2021.

Hungry Horse News 21 September 2022

Patricia T. McClelland, 87

Pat died on 15 July, 2022, at her home, in West Glacier, cared for by her family. Pat was born in Beloit, Wisconsin, on 24 March, 1935. The family eventually settled in Granville, Ohio. Pat's father, Dr. Harry V. Truman, was Professor of Botany at Denison University, in Granville. Pat's mother, Margaret Calligan Truman, was an artist and taught in elementary schools. The family spent summers of 1939-1942 in Yellowstone National Park, where Dr. Truman was a seasonal naturalist.

In 1956, Pat received a B.S. in Education from the Ohio State University. Also in 1956, she married B. Riley McClelland. She had met him in 1955 at Old Faithful, where they both were working. During their careers with the National Park Service, Pat and Riley worked at Carlsbad Caverns, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Pat liked to say that their career began with dessert - four snowed-in winters at Old Faithful. Their home was an historic log ranger station (razed in 1970), 500 feet from Old Faithful Geyser. Each autumn (1957-1960), Pat ordered groceries for five months. She loved the opportunity to spend so much time with her growing family in Yellowstone's quiet wonderland (before the snowmobile invasion years). Pat loved horses, dogs, wildlife, native plants, skiing, and hiking. She was intensely curious about all aspects of nature. If she encountered a butterfly or a bird along a trail, she could not be budged until she identified it.

Patricia McClelland

From 1965 through 1989, Pat worked with Riley on the Bald Eagle Migration Ecology Project. With colleagues and University of Montana students, they transmitter-equipped bald eagles at the fall concentrations in Glacier National Park. In spring 1980, Pat and friend Becky Williams documented the first nest site in the study. They tracked a tagged eagle from its wintering area near Ovando to its nest in Wood Buffalo National Park (northern Alberta). Other eagles were tracked as far north as Great Slave Lake, near the Arctic Circle.

In the midst of eagle research, Pat and family moved to Missoula. While guiding her five teenagers, Pat was a substitute teacher in several Missoula schools. She sang with the Missoula Chorale and took classes to keep her teaching certificate current. Beginning in 1985, Pat conducted her own Bald Eagle research, at Hungry Horse Reservoir. The field work was a basis for her thesis and a University of Montana M.S. Degree in Wildlife Biology, received in 1992.

In 1993, Pat and Riley retired to their home in West Glacier. Thereafter, Pat participated in numerous nature safaris to Africa, Australia, Borneo, Costa Rica, and Mexico, led by prominent naturalists. Most trips also had native guides. Pat and fellow travelers provided funding for one of their Tanzanian guides to earn a university degree. As a teacher, Pat took great joy in contributions to school children and native villages. She worked tirelessly to help preserve environmental quality, wherever she was.

Pat is survived by her husband, five children (Mary Teresa, Kevin, Jane, Kerry, and Terence), six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Anyone desiring to make a donation in Pat's memory, could consider the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance, (P. 0. Box 181, East Glacier Park, MT 59434), or a favorite conservation group.

Pat's obituary, 15 July 2022

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